

March 1, 2023

Chairwoman Roers and Members of the State & Local Government Committee,

I am writing to voice my support to the proposed changes presented in SB 2050.

As the Library Director of a public library that is significantly impacted by State Aid, which is determined based on the data presented in my Annual Report, this change is a positive step for all North Dakota libraries. The local maintenance of effort currently required can present a large obstacle for libraries, particularly smaller, rural libraries such as mine, to receive much-needed funding.

The Lake Region Public Library lost eligibility for State Aid a few years ago, and it significantly impacted the entire following year as a result. The proposed changes will mean libraries will receive funding based primarily on services offered, rather than services as well as past revenues/expenses.

I hope you will vote in favor of this proposed change to SB 2050.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Maddie Cummings

Mari Cuejs

Library Director

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