

## **Testimony in Support of House Bill 1114**

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action March 14, 2023

Dear Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying in support of House Bill 1114 and respectfully request that you render a "DO PASS" on this bill, with adoption of the changes proposed by the North Dakota Gaming Alliance.

While our organization is opposed to legalized gambling in North Dakota, we are undoubtedly in favor of helping those with gambling disorders. It is crucial that the Great State of North Dakota helps these individuals in order for them to overcome their gambling disorders and move on with their lives.

House Bill 1114, with proposed changes, would increase funding for gambling disorder prevention from its current level of \$10,000 per quarter to \$80,000 per quarter. This would greatly increase resources to help the affected people in our state overcome their gambling disorders. However, these suggested changes were not included in the bill as an amendment in the House Judiciary Committee.

While we are not opposed to this bill without the higher funding amount, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you please vote House Bill 1114, with proposed funding changes, out of committee with a "DO PASS" recommendation.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Jorritsma
Executive Director