SB 2004 March 18,2025

North Dakota Ethics Commission

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Kathy Tweeten and I support SB 2004.

The Commissioners and the current Ethics Commission staff have worked extremely hard, and in a relatively short time, to create a framework and details from which we can all use for effective good government.

The educational programs and other methods used to inform citizens, lobbyists, and you and me to better understand the function and responsibilities of the commission should be applauded. They continue to do an excellent job of sharing even with the huge increase in their workload. Additional staff are definitely needed.

I have personal experience with the staff. I have attended a few of their presentations and found the staff lawyers very knowledgeable and professional. If you have heard anything to the contrary, it is disinformation to intentionally impugn their competence and credibility. I have also had the displeasure of filing a complaint. I did not do this lightly. But like you, I don't like being lied to and deceived. I won't say more because the case is still pending. But what I can say is that I am totally satisfied with the assistance and quality of the service I received from the staff. They know what they are doing They gained my trust and they exceeded my expectations, and I do not impress easily.

In summary, the North Dakota Ethics Commission and staff are doing a difficult job with insufficient resources. Please fund and staff appropriately.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, please support SB 2004. Thank you!