Dear Representative,

Chairman, House Appropriations – Education and Environment Division I am writing to express my strong support for the Department of Commerce Appropriations bill, SB 2018, which funds critical economic development programs in North Dakota. As the co-founder of The Good Kids, I have directly benefited from the Innovate ND Program administered through CTB/NDWBC, which has been instrumental in growing my business through impactful connections with other women.

Without their support, it would have been significantly more challenging to meet other women with similar challenges, learn from their experiences, and get connected to other helpful resources. Programs like Innovate ND not only help individual businesses but also contribute to North Dakota's broader economic development by fostering innovation, job creation, and industry growth.

I urge you to support Innovate ND in SB 2018 to ensure businesses like mine continue to have access to the resources necessary for success. Thank you for your time and consideration. If you would like to discuss my experience further, please feel free to contact me via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Ashton Hauff Co-Founder, Brand Strategist The Good Kids Email: <u>ashton@thegoodkids.co</u> Call/Text: 701.595.0202