

March 9, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly,

We are writing in support of Senate Bill No. 2100. We are in favor of local training options and ask you to support this bill.

We know there were many EMS instructors who were highly skilled, trained, and experienced providing high quality education in rural communities. These EMS instructors kept their training and certifications current and held the same qualifications that training center administrators hold. They want to provide local training to local residents and first responders.

Currently, the rules cause our rural responders to travel to large communities to receive their training. This takes additional time and costs additional funds as well as mileage. Our future providers will be making less than the minimum wage to provide coverage 24/7 for our community. They sign up to join our service because they want to help our community – not to make money. Now we will need to ask them to leave their families and jobs even longer periods of time to learn the skills to help others.

Finally, our local instructor is able to allow students to learn about and practice with the equipment they would be using during a real response. With supporting this bill, we will be able to continue to have our current EMS providers assist with initial training practice sessions, which built relationships and trust among members.

By passing Senate Bill No. 2100 – rural EMS providers can keep training local, thus greatly helping with recruitment efforts and preparing future providers with high quality education using the equipment they will need to be familiar with at a lower cost.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Community Volunteer EMS of LaMoure Executive Board Members

Jessica Duffy, RN – LaMoure

Lori Gentzkow , CPR Driver– LaMoure

Jason Joy, CPR Driver – LaMoure

Ryan Bohenstingl , CPR Driver– LaMoure

Kelli Just, EMT – Berlin

Nancy Noot, EMT – Marion