



Letter of Support – SB 2221

Monday, March 17, 2025

Chairman M. Ruby and Members of the House Human Services Committee,

For the record, my name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our over 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 2221.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. Our members have consistently expressed concerns about the availability of high-quality, skilled workers. Expanding the eligibility of the skilled workforce student loan repayment program to include those holding a Master of Science in Nursing, who teach clinicals and reside and work in the state in an occupation requiring the degree, will provide an additional incentive to attract, develop, and retain qualified individuals. This is crucial in addressing the critical shortage of healthcare professionals across the state, without whom the health and well-being of North Dakota would be at risk.

It is essential that we take steps to attract, develop, and retain skilled workers to build a robust workforce pipeline. This repayment program enhances our regional competitiveness by further incentivizing qualified individuals to stay in the state, ensuring our families and communities are well cared for, while driving North Dakota toward economic prosperity. For these reasons, we urge the committee to approve this bill.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued commitment to North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Cale Dunwoody

Vice President of Public Policy
Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce