

Testimony Prepared for:

House Transportation

March 13, 2025

By: Genny Dienstmann, NDACo



**RE: Support of SB 2183
Construction Zone Speed Limits/Fees**

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2183. I'm Genny Dienstmann with the ND Association of Counties and in my role, I also serve as Executive Director of the ND Association of County Engineers and Highway Superintendents.

Safety is a top priority in our county highway departments, not only for staff, but also the traveling public. Our counties provide safety training for their staff and invest in safety equipment like reflective signage and barriers, but we cannot control driver behavior through these means alone. North Dakota's construction season can be limited, so our county staff maximize their work schedules as much as possible to complete road and bridge projects. This means they can be working into the late hours of the day or even at night to meet project deadlines.

We support both changes to this bill. We believe the increase in fines would deter speeding in construction zones and provide a safer environment for everyone involved. We also support removing the section in the law that states "individuals engaged in construction are present at the time and place of the violation", because as stated earlier, there are times workers are onsite late into the evening or at night, so drivers may not always know when workers are present. By having the speed zones in place at all times, this keeps safety in the forefront for our workers and the public.

Chairman Ruby and Committee members, I appreciate your consideration in support of SB 2183.