## Testimony Before the Senate Education Committee SB 2275 January 28, 2025

Chair Beard and members of the Committee, my name is Nick Archuleta, and I am the president of ND United. and I am writing to you today in support of SB 2275, and to urge a *do pass* recommendation for this proposed legislation.

It is no surprise that we are living in an increasingly intertwined world. Ongoing technological advances have managed to shrink our world, allowing for innumerable cultural and academic interactions around the globe. There is no greater cultural touchstone than language and the acquisition of language skills is more important than ever. Those who teach world languages know that the younger the learner, the more inclined they are to learn a foreign language because the part of the brain that enables language acquisition is wide open. Kids want to communicate, regardless of the target language.

HB 2275 provides a welcome incentive for teachers to teach a foreign or world language. If the pilot program is successful, we will be instilling young learners with an unbelievably valuable skill that will serve them well throughout their academic career and beyond. Chair Beard and members of the Committee, please give SB 2275 a *do pass* recommendation.

Mil gracias.