

February 4, 2025

Senator Diane Larson Chair, Judiciary Committee 2525 Larson Road Bismarck, ND 58504-8926

A2LA Written Testimony: Senate Bill 2347, relating to historic horse race wagering

Dear Honorable Larson,

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comment regarding the proposed amendments to Senate Bill 2347 as it relates to laboratory testing and accreditation standards.

A2LA is a non-profit, accreditation body with over 4300 actively accredited organizations located in all 50 states as well as an international presence. We have been granting accreditation to testing laboratories since 1979. The criteria forming the basis for our laboratory accreditation program is ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. We currently have over twenty laboratories accredited for gaming testing and inspection. We ourselves have been evaluated against rigorous standards in providing this accreditation service and are recognized internationally as an International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)-recognized accreditation body.

Overall, we are in support of this bill; however, we appreciate the opportunity to provide recommended language to amendments to strengthen the independent laboratory requirement. Requiring an independent laboratory helps assure an objective testing environment but does not take into consideration the technical competency of the laboratory. By requiring an accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 by an accreditation body, will help assure that independent objective testing is being conducted by a technical competent laboratory. The following is the language we recommend:

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(3) Has been tested by an independent testing laboratory, accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 by an accreditation body that is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement, such as A2LA, to ensure integrity and proper working order; and

We would be pleased to elaborate on our comments or provide additional information. You are welcome to contact me directly via email at rquerry@A2LA.org.

Sincerely,

Randall Querry

Director of Government Relations

American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)