Appropriations Committee North Dakota House of Representatives State Capitol Building 600 East Boulevard Avenue Bismarck, ND 58505

March 5, 2021

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The Minot Association of Builders would like to write to your committee today requesting support for Senate Bill 2019, which proposes significant funding for career and technical education. Funding for career and technical education will be instrumental in supporting the building industry in Minot as well as throughout North Dakota.

The workforce in North Dakota has been evolving and has hindered our industry as we see a loss of skills and knowledge required for building, remodeling, and maintaining homes. We have seen a trend away from students interested in careers in construction and related industries, and this trend is due in part to lack of proper education and training programs. The skilled labor shortage causes an increase in construction costs, which leads to a domino effect of slowed economic activity and revenue potential in our community and throughout our state.

Plans are in place for a CTE facility in Minot, and access to funding through Senate Bill 2019 has the potential to assist in developing and growing a much-needed workforce to support our building industry. This is a critical and ever-growing need.

We urge you to support Senate Bill 2019 to stimulate the economy in our great state of North Dakota.

Respectfully,

Erika Kelly MAB Executive Officer Shane Lider MAB Board President



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