



Testimony of Jennifer Greuel
Economic Development Association of North Dakota
In Support of SB 2245
March 16, 2021

Chair Delzer and members of the House Appropriations committee:

The Economic Development Association of North Dakota represents more than 80 large and small and rural and urban economic development organizations on the front line of growing businesses and communities in North Dakota. The primary purpose of the organization is to promote the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota to develop more vibrant communities and improve quality of life. It is for these reasons our organization and its members want to express support for SB 2245.

Energy and agriculture have long been the two historical and leading pillars of North Dakota's economy. EDND supports investments that will enhance these important economic sectors and advance new opportunities to support growth of other sectors to diversify our economy. The introduction of intermodal has reduced costs for ag producers, manufacturers and other industries and made exporting commodities easier. It also allows North Dakota to recruit additional companies which may prefer or require easier access to shipping, potentially providing opportunities for the diversification of the economy and the state's tax base.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for SB 2245 and for your continued commitment to keeping North Dakota globally competitive and diversifying the state's economy.