TESTIMONY ON HB1285 GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MARY J. SOUCIE NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARIAN <u>msoucie@nd.gov</u> (701)328-4654

Dear Chairman Kasper & Members of the Committee,

For the record, I am Mary Soucie, State Librarian of North Dakota, and I am giving testimony in support of HB1285 creating a commission relating to the two-hundred-fifty years since the founding of America. The State Library is one of the organizations that will appoint a representative to the commission. We support the creating of the commission. We have had a very brief conversation with the North Dakota State Historical Society who will lead the commission and look forward to partnering with the Historical Society, the Department of Public Instruction, the North Dakota Library Community and other organizations to commemorate this milestone. Thank you for your time and for accepting my written testimony. I am happy to answer any questions that the committee may have.