



March 9, 2021

67th Legislative Assembly of ND

RE: Senate Bill No. 2205

I am writing to you as the managing partner of Dakota Eye Institute. We are a practice of six ophthalmologists, nine optometrists, and two nurse practitioners. In our business, we are seeing an increased need for sign and oral language interpretive services. The increased diversity in our region has caused us to seek sources that provide these services. In order for us to deliver the kind of care patients deserve, we need to provide interpretive services to this growing population. Unfortunately, with decreasing reimbursement for services, it is a financial hardship for practices to absorb payment for interpretive services.

We highly support Senate Bill No. 2205. Receiving payment for these much needed services would help remove the financial burden we currently operate under.

Thank you for listening to our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Litchfield M.D.".

Douglas Litchfield, MD
Managing Partner