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The Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce Supports SB 2175.

The US Secretary of the Air Force made it very clear in a letter last year to all 50 Governors; future-basing decisions for all future missions will include a quality of life component. In her letter in bold letters, she said and I quote:

“We will encourage leadership to consider the quality of schools near bases and whether reciprocity of professional licenses is available for military families when evaluating future basing or mission alternatives.

GFAFB contributes over \$250M a year to the Grand Forks regional economy according to their annual economic impact report. So it is clear why this is important to the local community.

From a business community perspective: Workforce remains our number one challenge with over 1,500 jobs open on a continuous basis in Grand Forks County alone. This Bill will help us do a better job capturing this military spouse talent pool.

Thank you Senator Meyer for working to balance the interests of business, military families and the health and welfare of the people of North Dakota.

As a chamber and community, we support this Bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Barry Wilfahrt'.

Barry Wilfahrt
President & CEO
The Chamber Grand Forks/East Grand Forks