Dear Chairman Vedaa and members of the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

My name is Tim Baumann and I live at 1308 35th Ave. SW in Minot, ND. I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 2316 relating to changing the date of First Nations Day to the Second Monday in October.

Like so many North Dakotans, I believe that it is important to recognize the contributions of all members of our community. Our schools, our economy, and our quality of life are better when people feel as though they are seen, heard, and valued. The change proposed under SB 2316 would honor and recognize our Indigenous/First Nation neighbors and friends while also acknowledging the history and negative impact of European settlement on Indigenous populations. This change would be in line with the actions of several North Dakota communities in previous years.

Thank you Chairman Vedaa and members of the Government and Veterans Affairs committee for listening to my comment today. I urge a DO PASS on Senate Bill 2316.

Sincerely, Tim Baumann