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On behalf of the ND Center for Nursing, I am writing this letter to support the North Dakota Area Health Education Center (NDAHEC) Program through HB 1142 including the Eastern and Western North Dakota Area Health Education Centers (Eastern NDAHEC, Western NDAHEC). The AHEC program focuses on connecting students to careers, professionals to communities and communities to better health. In particular, the HOSA- Future Health Professionals provides opportunities for high school students to learn about all health careers including nursing. The AHEC also provides support for clinical rotations and AHEC Scholars.

The NDAHEC serves as an active member of our board of directors as we work collaboratively to address the nursing workforce shortage. We also help to coordinate the promotion of the nursing careers with AHEC staff.

In closing, I would like to say that the ND Center for Nursing is pleased to continue a relationship that is beneficial to us and the North Dakota Area Health Education Program. We believe this support is worthy and meets the needs of future health care students and professional providers, rural communities and quality health or North Dakota. Thank you.

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