



Great Public Schools

Great Public Service

**Testimony before the Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee
SB 2300
February 2nd, 2021**

Good morning Chairman Klein and members of the Committee. My name is Tom Gerhardt and I'm the Director of Public Affairs for North Dakota United. North Dakota United has over 11,000 members statewide in K-12 education, higher ed faculty and staff, and public employees.

I write in support of SB 2300 which would offer benefits to temporary full-time state employees with two or more years of consecutive service and respectfully urge a DO PASS recommendation.

SB 2300 would provide temporary, full-time employees with salary and benefits equal to that which is provided to full-time permanent employees, the ability to be eligible for annual raises in the same percentages as provided full-time employees, and the ability to participate in the public employees retirement system.

These employees provide valuable services to the state of North Dakota. As a former manager, I know turnover comes with a cost. It's inefficient and exhausting. SB 2300 will make it easier to recruit and retain quality employees in North Dakota.

There are many reasons a person may wish to work in a temporary, full-time position. Perhaps they have children at home to take care for or an elderly parent. We believe with two years of service they have proven their value and commitment to the state.

For these reasons, Chairman Klein, I urge a DO PASS recommendation for SB 2300.

Thank you for your time and consideration.