

SB 2233  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
January 26, 2021  
Testimony of Travis W. Finck, Executive Director, NDCLCI

Madam Chair Larson, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, my name is Travis Finck and I am the executive director for the North Dakota Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents. The Commission is the state agency responsible for the delivery of indigent defense services in North Dakota. I rise today to provide neutral testimony on SB 2233.

The Commission believes SB 2233 has potential for positive impacts on indigent defense in North Dakota. We have many small counties and rural areas across the State of North Dakota where we struggle to find attorneys. Often, we are paying attorneys to travel vast distances to handle cases because of a lack of available attorneys in rural areas. The Commission is hopeful this bill will bring attorneys to those rural locales that may be willing to provide services on behalf of the Commission.

We are neutral in this bill because the bill does not directly impact or require an attorney work with us. However, in the event this bill is passed, and attorneys are brought into these communities, the Commission would be encouraged about the possibility of future partnerships with the Attorney recruitment program.

Respectfully Submitted:



Travis W. Finck

Executive Director, NDCLCI