HB 1390 Testimony
Representative Gretchen Dobervich, District11
March 11, 2021

Good Morning Chairman Burckhard and Members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee. For the record my name is Representative Gretchen Dobervich and I represent District 11 in Fargo. I am here this morning to introduce HB 1390 and encourage its passage.

HB 1390 is the result of a small number of questions and concerns related to election worker training for the 2020 election, the desire to offer additional training tools and to expand transparency in our election process.

Originally, HB 1390 sought to develop an online election worker training video, similar to that used in several other states, which could be used by county auditors if they chose as part of the training they provide poll workers, would be available online for poll workers to watch as a refresher as needed and to provide greater transparency by giving poll watchers and the public the opportunity to see what training election workers are provided.

After a second meeting with the Secretary of States Office regarding the bill, it was expressed that there was a desire to have a scholarly study of best practices, innovations and applications of technology to election worker training; and this study to be done by a North Dakota college or university. Thus, the evolution into the study resolution you see before you.

HB 1390 provides opportunity for North Dakota to develop election worker training to meet a variety of needs and provider greater transparency into our election process.

That concludes my testimony and I stand for questions.