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2-2-203

The Chamber Grand Forks / East Grand Forks opposes HB1503.

Cirrus Aircraft has operated manufacturing facilities in Grand Forks, North Dakota, since 1997, under Dakota Aircraft Corporation, and today is one of the top 10 employers in Grand Forks.

In just the past three-years, Cirrus has grown from 240 to over 430 employees. They are making plans to expand the facilities and add further automation, and in so doing increase their highly skilled workforce by an additional 150+ new employees over the next five-years. This makes Cirrus the second largest manufacturing company in our community.

Cirrus is a strong community partner. It supports and participates in many community based initiatives aimed helping improve the lives of their employees and community. Their leadership team and employees are part of the fabric of our community.

Cirrus Aircraft purchased its manufacturing facility from the City of Grand Forks in January 2021 for \$2.1 million. If House Bill 1503 is passed, under the terms of the legislation, it would retroactively apply to ownership interests in real property acquired after July 31, 2020, by foreign entities. As such, due to its parent company ownership, the sales agreement between Cirrus Aircraft and the City of Grand Forks would be voided and require them to divest of the property within one-year.

The passage of House Bill 1503 would force Cirrus to halt expansion and potentially close their operations in North Dakota resulting in the loss of over 430 well-paying manufacturing jobs.

Please oppose HB1503

Thank you

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