

**Testimony of Dana Hager  
Economic Development Association of North Dakota  
In Support of HB 1503  
Feb. 3, 2023**

Chairman Thomas and members of the House Agriculture Committee:

My name is Dana Hager, and I am the executive director of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND). EDND represents more than 80 state economic development organizations and businesses on the front line of economic development efforts throughout North Dakota. The organization's primary purpose is to promote the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota, develop more vibrant communities and improve quality of life. Today EDND stands in opposition of HB 1503.

Among EDND's Legislative Priorities is our mission to stabilize the state's economy through investment and development. The United States, and North Dakota, remain attractive foreign investment destinations for a variety of reasons. As a result, foreign investments are no longer something of the past. North Dakota should be smart about its approach to foreign ownership of real property. It needs to make sound policy based on logic, not emotions. EDND opposes HB 1503.