



GREATER NORTH DAKOTA CHAMBER
HB 1018
House Appropriations Committee
Education and Environment Division
Chairman Mike Nathe
January 19, 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Andrea Pfennig with the Greater North Dakota Chamber. GNDC is North Dakota's largest statewide business advocacy organization, with membership represented by small and large businesses, local chambers, and trade and industry associations across the state. We stand in **support** of House Bill 1018.

Workforce is a critical challenge facing businesses in North Dakota. Our members support comprehensive efforts led by the State to attract workforce. We also feel it is important to augment strategic resources for automation, recognizing it is an important tool to address workforce challenges.

From a business climate perspective, our members feel it is important to advance automation, innovation, and entrepreneurship through targeted incentives and economic development policies that position North Dakota to be globally competitive. This is important to all industries, including burgeoning industries such as UAS.

Because of this, we would like to offer general support for those aspects of HB 1018. Thank you for your consideration. I'd be happy to answer any questions.