

**House Appropriations Committee
68th Legislative Session
Representative Vigesaa-Chair**

Chairman Vigesaa and House Appropriations Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of HB 1182

Intent of this bill...

- Provide funding to Veteran Service Organizations for providing Military Funeral Honors

Need for bill...

- The Veteran Service Organizations (VSO') in ND have and continue to provide Funeral Honor (FH) Details in Support of military services.
- Army has a \$50 stipend, but funding not guaranteed
- ND NG coordinates FH in ND
- ND DVA coordinates FH Coin program in ND
- Together NDNG and NDDVA can coordinate this program
- Outcome will better account for and report veteran funerals in ND
- Many VSO's are struggling to financially support their FH programs
- MN and SD have similar programs
- \$50 Stipend is for the entire detail (not per person)
 - For expenses: Uniforms, fuel, ammo, rifles, etc.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lonnie Wangen Commissioner-NDDVA