



1 HB1199

2 Testimony in support

3 Good morning. Chairman Vigesaa and members of the House
4 Appropriations Committee. For the record my name is Kevin Hoherz, and I am
5 here representing the North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders representing
6 your school leaders across North Dakota.

7 We are here to provide testimony for HB 1199. As you know, many districts
8 applied for a share of a matching grant that totaled amount of \$68,276,228. These
9 funds were to be appropriated from the federal coronavirus capital projects fund
10 to the department of career and technical education for the statewide area and
11 career center initiative grant program. This grant program was Intend for the
12 development of CTE Career Centers.

13 I was the Dickinson High School principal at the time the grant was made
14 available. We worked on our application to assist in the funding for the career
15 center we have been developing. Like the other school districts that were
16 counting on the grant, not receiving the matching grant was stressful and
17 disappointing. We had to delay the full implementation of the academy
18 programming we planned for our students to be career and choice ready.

19 Appropriating the funds requested in HB 1199 will be an important step to
20 help get the career academies moving froward. NDCEL will work with legislatures
21 on the national and state levels to get the funds appropriated to the Department
22 of Career and Technical Education. We also feel the loan is a safe risk for the
23 state with the repayment plan.

24 Thank you for your time and we would appreciate your support for HB 1199.