



Bioscience Association of North Dakota
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**TESTIMONY OF RICHARD GLYNN
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE
BIOSCIENCE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA**

February 13, 2023

Dear Chairman Nathe and the Esteemed Members of the House Appropriations Education and Environment Committee:

The following is testimony to this Committee in support of HB 1525 “A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the university of North Dakota in the sum of \$425,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the University of North Dakota for the purpose of maintaining equipment and facilities housing scientific instruments, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

The goal of Bioscience Association of North Dakota is to build a vibrant, growing, life sciences industry in North Dakota. In order to do that, North Dakota needs to not only develop its resources from within and convince them to remain in the State but to recruit companies from outside the State to come and establish their businesses within the State. The competition for life sciences development is fierce, and other states, regions, and nations are making significant investments to advance their life science industries and leverage comparative advantages. The other States use their Research Universities as a “drawing card” to entice companies to come and do their research and development therein.

We are no exception. We use the “talent” we have in our Research Universities to draw companies within and without the State to come and collaborate with our Research Universities in the development of their products. But it is not only our “Intellectual Talent” that draws them there, it is the facilities available and the equipment that is located therein. This saves the company money in that it means that the company does not have to make a “major capital investment” to obtain the tools it needs to complete their research and development. In most cases they “Lease” or enter into a “collaborative agreement” to have access to not only the intellectual talent they need but to gain access to the facilities and equipment necessary to complete their research and development.

This bill provides maintenance of equipment and facilities that will aid the Association in recruiting bioscience companies to our State. UND’s microscope and mass spec facilities are actually very good and the mass spec is directed by a very solid scientist. These are surprising excellent research ecosystems that provide expertise and instrumentation allow smaller companies the ability to have their research efforts in ND. This is a true “selling point” when the Association has research universities that can offer this type of equipment and facilities. A lot of out of State companies, and even local ones, are unaware that this type of equipment is available (we are trying to remedy that!) and are more willing to relocate here or, if a local company, expand their products.

By adding this investment in the facilities and maintenance of equipment used in the research and development of bioscience and biotechnology products we could have the leading edge in attracting biotech firms to North Dakota as well as encouraging those firms already here to “dive in” and make the investment to expand their businesses. This leads to the creation of high-skill, high-wage jobs that diversify the state's economy, modernizes facility operations, and supports the creation of improved standard of living and state and local taxes to support K-12 education, public safety, and other budget priorities.

The Association urges the Committee to make a “DO PASS” recommendation to the full House of Representatives.

Respectfully Submitted



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