



FMWF Chamber Letter of Support for HB 1398

February 14th, 2023

Chairman Heinert and members of the House Education Committee:

For the record, my name is Katherine Grindberg and I have the pleasure of serving as the Executive Vice President for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo (FMWF) Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's mission is to be a catalyst for economic growth and prosperity for businesses, members, and the greater community. On behalf of our over 1,900 members, I write this letter in support of House Bill 1398.

As many industries across our state and nation evolve and incorporate technology, our education system must also continue to evolve and provide students with foundational computer science and cybersecurity skills. In order for our state to develop a robust conduit of skilled workers, we must adapt our learning models and curriculum. While many students may not pursue a career in Information Technology (IT), Computing, or Cybersecurity, these fundamental skills will be essential for careers in the 21st Century. By adjusting curriculums to require computer science classes, we ensure that every student across North Dakota receives an education that meets 21st Century industry demands.

On behalf of our members, we respectfully urge a DO PASS recommendation and I would like to thank the committee for their time and consideration. I will now stand for any questions.

Respectfully,

Katherine Grindberg
Executive Vice President
FMWF Chamber of Commerce
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