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Your window to the world.

March 1, 2023

Chairwoman Roers and Members of the State & Local Government Committee,

I am writing to encourage your support of the proposed changes being presented in SB2050.

As the Library Director of the public library in Wahpeton, ND, we witnessed first-hand the importance of being eligible for State Aid and the impact it makes on our services to our patrons and citizens. We lost eligibility a few years ago under the maintenance of effort requirement and it significantly impacted services for the entire following year. The proposed changes will mean libraries will receive funding based on services offered, rather than services and past revenue/expenses.

I encourage you to vote in favor of this proposed change to SB2050.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Bakken", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Melissa Bakken  
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