

## **Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 2257**

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action March 6, 2023

Good afternoon Chairman Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. We are here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 2257 and ask that you issue a "DO PASS" out of committee.

Our organization believes that all people are made in the image of God; to be treasured, nurtured, and protected. This is never more true than with our children.

The ND Task Force for the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children is an important link in the chain to make progress on the scourge of sexual abuse that happens to the most innocent in North Dakota. It is only by acquiring information, distilling that into knowledge, identifying the underlying causes of sexual abuse in our state, and then finding the best way to attack the problem that we will ever make true progress in eliminating this injustice. This task force seeks to do just that, and we commend its efforts and support the continuation of its important work through passage of this bill.

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you render a "DO PASS" on Senate Bill 2257; for parents, for children, and for generations of North Dakotans to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and now I'd be happy to stand for any questions.