



Minnesota - North Dakota Chapter

**Senate Bill 2283  
House Human Services  
Representative Robin Weisz, Chair  
January 30, 2023**

Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services committee, my name is Melanie Gaebe, Director of Public Policy for the Alzheimer's Association in North Dakota. Thank you for the opportunity to express the Association's support for the proposed basic care rate study in Senate Bill 2283.

Section three of SB 2283 provides for a study of the basic care payment system. The specialized basic care services in the study include those services provided to people living with Alzheimer's and dementia. There are currently an estimated 15,000 North Dakotans living with dementia and that number is expected to increase to 16,000 by 2025. While the goal of the dementia care services program is to help people continue to safely live in their homes for as long as possible, many of the residents in basic care facilities throughout the state are living with mild cognitive impairment or dementia.

We encourage the committee to move forward with this study as it is essential to ensure facilities are getting a rate commensurate with the exceptional care they provide to North Dakota residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.