

January 30, 2023

SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1465 – LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PARTICIPATION

Dear House Committee Members:

In 1990 I graduated from Minot High School with hopes of staying in North Dakota for my entire life. I looked at a variety of career paths and universities in the area. I finally settled on Minot State for a few years then on to NDSU entering into the Landscape Architecture program. The summer before my thesis I was able to get my feet wet in the field by working for the City of Rapid City, where I met many individuals in my field and job opportunities that were hard to find in ND in the late 1990's. But after my graduation in 1998, I did have to leave the state for work and it wasn't until a few years later that the profession was finally recognized and brought into the family of the state registration board.

I currently do not have a license to practice as I had to turn my career into land planning to be able to stay in the area. I do not regret that I have additional knowledge to help provide my fellow Dakotans and maybe someday I'll finish that part of my education but am so grateful that there are so many professionals assisting in this endeavor and I want to share my support of the profession.

Thank you for your time and support of this bill.

Donna J. (Luvaas) Bye

Planner and graduate of NDSU's Landscape Arch program 1998