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STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

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SB2184 - Uniform Regulation of Occupational Boards

House Industry Business and Labor Committee – JW327C 9:00 AM - Monday – March 20, 2023

Chairman Louser and Members of the House Industry Business and Labor Committee, for the record I am Mark Hardy Executive Director of the North Dakota State Board of Pharmacy.

SB 2184 was amended in the Senate Workforce Development Committee to be a study conducted by legislative management. The Board of Pharmacy has no concerns with a study to examine the issues that are addressed in the current version of this legislation.

However, I do think it is important to point out that the legislature recently directed the Department of Commerce to study many of the same issues that are requested in this proposed study. This was done just a few years ago, and the Department did a wonderful job of examining the various Boards and providing their findings on the operations of Boards in the state. We believe the results of that study showed that the Boards of North Dakota overall are doing a great job in many areas which SB2184 looks to examine. I believe you, the Legislature, have done a great job in setting up a framework of Occupational Boards that provides for nimble, responsive, and efficient operations that provide for this strong environment for the workforce and the public in our state. While there are always improvements and efficiencies that can be looked at and created, Boards mostly do a good job with the functions tasked by the legislature to conduct.

Again, the Board of Pharmacy has no issues with the current version of this legislation. However, we do hope the Committee will look at the history of recent studies on occupational Boards, as well as the next piece of legislation, Senate Bill 2249, to consider a single approach to examine Boards, if the legislature sees fit in the interim to cut down on the administrative burden with two similar studies by different entities in the state.