

SB 2267  
68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly  
House Judiciary Committee  
March 1, 2023  
Testimony of Travis W. Finck, Executive Director, NDCLCI

Chairman Klemin, members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Travis Finck and I am the Executive Director for the North Dakota Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents. The Commission is the state agency responsible for the delivery of indigent defense services in North Dakota. I rise today on behalf of the Commission to provide testimony in support of SB 2267.

The need for qualified attorneys to serve our citizens is critical. This bill is an effort to expand the program to recruit and retain attorneys in our state's most rural communities. Although the Commission does not currently participate or benefit from this program directly, we do believe in the merits of the legislation. Our hope is attorneys recruited to the rural areas would ultimately consider contracting with the Commission to provide services or that our attorneys in rural offices may benefit from the program.

Chairman Klemin, members of the Committee, for the reasons stated herein, the Commission on Legal Counsel urges a DO PASS recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted:



Travis W. Finck  
Executive Director, NDCLCI