



Testimony of Dana Hager
Economic Development Association of North Dakota
In Support of SB 2306
March 3, 2023

Chair Longmuir and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

My name is Dana Hager, executive director of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND). I want to express our support for SB 2306 regarding Job Development Authorities (JDA).

EDND represents more than 80 state economic development organizations on the front line of economic development efforts throughout North Dakota. The organization's primary purpose is to promote the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota to develop more vibrant and efficient communities and improve quality of life. Many of our members are governed through the JDA chapter of Century Code to "encourage and assist in the development of employment and promotion of tourism within the county."

The new subsection proposed in SB 2306 does not impact or change the way a county JDA currently operates but allows for more flexibility in establishing strong and invested boards for JDAs. This change will streamline the process for our communities and create more efficiencies and better communication between EDOs and JDAs. EDND supports steps to help strengthen our organizations who working hard for North Dakota at the local level.

Thank you for the time and energy to discuss SB 2306. EDND urges a Do Pass.