

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I'm Matt Linneman, Deputy Director for Engineering for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). I'm here to introduce and support Senate Bill 2110.

Senate Bill 2110 will provide the NDDOT authority to enter into agreements with Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist with the maintenance of their transportation network. This bill would give the NDDOT authority to assist the National Park Service and expend necessary resources to expedite or assist with projects within the limits of Theodore Roosevelt National Park provided that the park agrees to seek reimbursement of department costs from the federal government.

Tourism is North Dakota's third largest industry and Theodore Roosevelt National Park is the top destination, attracting nearly 800,000 visitors each year. The park has approximately 55 miles of roadway within the boundary of the north and south units. This bill will allow the NDDOT to assist the National Park Service with providing reliable, year-round access to the rugged beauty of our state's only national park and allow us to be nimble and respond quickly in addressing emerging needs, making a direct impact on visitors to the park.

This concludes my testimony. Thank you.