

March 8, 2023

Dear Senator Wanzek and Committee Members,

My name is Carie Boster and I am the Dunn County Jobs Development Authority Economic Development Director.

I am writing today to support the work of the North Dakota Tourism Division and the influence their work has on rural communities.

The Dunn County JDA works to encourage and assist in the development of employment opportunities and tourism promotion in Dunn County. We believe that developing recreation opportunities is an important part of our workforce attraction and retention program. Simply put, employees want to be able to recreate where they live – and opportunities to recreate often drive the family’s decision as to where to live.

The Dunn County JDA has been a key partner in the redevelopment of the Little Missouri Campground and Day Use Recreation Area at the Little Missouri Bay on Lake Sakakawea, the building of a Nature Playscape and public park and trails at the Lake Ilo National Wildlife Refuge, and the development and implementation of the Killdeer Mountain Four Bears Scenic Byway. These attractions were made possible because of cooperative partnerships between our community and local, state, and federal governmental agencies that developed through an understanding of the roles we each play in our collective success.

The North Dakota Tourism Division provides infrastructure funding, expertise, and marketing support to all of North Dakota. Their efforts to bring visitors to our state is often the first introduction to North Dakota that our future workforce sees. Their ability to tell the North Dakota story is our story, and their reach far exceeds that which any rural community or county can do on its own.

HB 1018 provides an avenue for funding that creates a means for ongoing collaboration and partnerships that will help to build rural North Dakota.

If I can be of any assistance, or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



Carie Boster
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Dunn County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.