

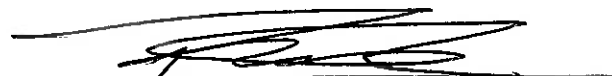
HB 1022  
Senate Appropriations  
Government Operations Division  
March 7, 2023  
Testimony of Travis W. Finck, Executive Director, NDCLCI

ONE PAGER PER REQUEST

The Commission authorized the undersigned to submit a budget with three decision packages.

- 1) \$450,000 in equity increases for employees.
  - a. The Governor **did not** recommend this package. The executive budget called for a targeted equity approach. In the targeted equity approach attorney positions would receive equity funding.
  - b. The House agreed with the targeted equity and added \$150,000 for funding increases of non-attorney positions.
  - c. We are satisfied with the equity increases included in the house version.
- 2) Three FTE investigator positions with a total of \$391,756.92
  - a. The Governor **did** recommend this package.
  - b. The House **did** approve 1 FTE investigator position of a supervisory investigator amounting to \$137,761 per biennium.
  - c. The Commission can work with the addition of the 1 FTE to establish the program and reapproach in future sessions to expand the program upon proving usefulness.
- 3) Increase the contract rate \$5 /hour to a total of \$80/hour. The total cost was \$630,453.
  - a. The Governor **did** recommend this package.
  - b. The House **did** recommend this package.
  - c. The Commission requested a minimal increase of \$5 per hour. The contract rate has not been adjusted since 2012.

Respectfully submitted:



Travis W. Finck, Director  
N.D. Comm. on Legal Counsel for Indigents

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