



Testimony of Dana Hager
Economic Development Association of North Dakota
In Support of HB 1199
Jan. 30, 2023

Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

My name is Dana Hager, executive director of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND). EDND represents more than 80 state economic development organizations and businesses 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, develop more vibrant communities and improve quality of life. I want to express our support for HB 1199.

Building North Dakota's future workforce through investments such as career and technical (CTE) programs is an important step for our members. We recognize the importance of workforce education programs and the need to support training capacity that correlates with the state's workforce needs.

North Dakota's leaders and communities are rising to the workforce challenge by expanding and constructing CTE centers which are essential investments for our future and for solving the current workforce problem. Acting on the funding issue for our CTEs is a smart step to keeping progress going and supplying support where needed most.

EDND's members are passionate about addressing our most critical occupational needs and are here to express support for HB 1199. Thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring our school districts and communities have support as they educate our future workforce.