



January 25, 2023

Senator Larry Luick, Chairman
Agriculture and Veterans Affairs
600 E. Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

RE: SB 2234

Chairman Luick and Members of the Committee,

As the Mayor representing the City of Williston and its 30,000 plus residents, it gives me great pleasure to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 2234.

The Army National Guard Training Center and the 818 Engineers have long been a staple in the Williston community. With an annual economic impact of more than 1.4 million dollars we have always shown support for their presence.

Although we are saddened to see the 818 transition out, we remain enthusiastic to what lies ahead with the addition of the new Air Defense Unit. We can assure you our community support remains intact.

With a proposed August timeline for the Air Defense Unit to begin drilling in Williston, we realized the need for transitional space until a new facility can be constructed. Therefore, we have created an agreement with the guard to utilize space within an existing city structure. I am confident the bill sponsor and District 23 Senator Todd Beard has touched on some of these details during his testimony. Although our agreement may meet the temporary needs for this unit, the need for a permanent facility remains.

I strongly ask for your support on Senate Bill 2234.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Howard Klug".

Howard Klug, President
Board of City Commissioners