Testimony before the Senate Education Committee SB 2033 January 17, 2023

Chairman Elkin and members of the Committee, I am Nick Archuleta, and I am the president of North Dakota United. I am very happy today to offer this testimony urging a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2033.

As we all know, North Dakota is not immune from the shortage of teachers that is affecting every state in our nation. We are somewhat unique, however, in that we have resources available to help alleviate the shortage and encourage more young people to choose education as their profession.

The provisions of SB 2033, if passed and signed into law, will provide relief for those individuals who have done the hard work and invested in their education. Furthermore, by targeting this relief to those teaching in critical need areas-be they remote communities or subject areas-this legislation will help to mitigate the effects of the teacher shortage in areas that experience it most acutely.

Chairman Elkin and members of the Committee, this is the type of legislation that tells teachers and potential teachers that they are valued, needed, and supported. For this reason, I urge a DO PASS recommendation for SB 2033.