



**THE CHAMBER**  
FARGO MOORHEAD WEST FARGO

**FMWF Chamber Letter of Support for SB 2237**

January 25th, 2023

Chair Kannianen and members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee,

For the record, my name is Katherine Grindberg and I have the pleasure of serving as the Executive Vice President for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo (FMWF) Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's mission is to be a catalyst for economic growth and prosperity for businesses, members, and the greater community. On behalf of our over 1,900 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 2237.

As members of this committee well know, workforce is a major challenge facing nearly every business across North Dakota. This challenge is not unique to our state though, businesses across the United States are in desperate need of qualified workers to fill their open positions. Every state in the nation is competing to attract, acclimate, retain, and develop workforce.

A critical component of this nationwide workforce crisis is the accessibility of affordable and quality childcare. As we look at attracting qualified workers and retaining them in our state, our communities must be able to provide access to this necessary service, allowing parents the capacity to enter or re-enter the workforce. These challenges are cyclical in nature and require a multi-pronged approach to strategically address the root causes of the problem. Through innovative approaches, such as a childcare tax credit, the state of North Dakota can reduce the financial barriers that exist throughout our state's childcare system. We encourage the legislature to look at childcare holistically and identify opportunities to deliver providers and families with strategic and meaningful relief.

On behalf of our members, thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Katherine Grindberg

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