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2-7-2023

The Chamber Grand Forks / East Grand Forks opposes SB2371.

Cirrus Aircraft has operated manufacturing facilities in Grand Forks, North Dakota, since 1997, under Dakota Aircraft Corporation, and today is one of the top 10 employers in Grand Forks.

In just the past three-years, Cirrus has grown from 240 to over 430 employees. They are making plans to expand the facilities and add further automation, and in so doing increase their highly skilled workforce by an additional 150+ new employees over the next five-years. This makes Cirrus the second largest manufacturing company in our community.

Cirrus is a strong community partner. It supports and participates in many community based initiatives aimed helping improve the lives of their employees and community. Their leadership team and employees are part of the fabric of our community.

If approved, SB 2371 would prohibit the City of Grand Forks from issuing a building permit to support Cirrus planned expansion, eliminating the possibility of additional property tax and employment growth. With the knowledge that Cirrus won't be able to grow in North Dakota, and would almost certainly result in divestment from North Dakota resulting in the loss of over 430 well-paying manufacturing jobs.

Please oppose SB2371

Barry Wilfahrt  
President & CEO  
The Chamber Grand Forks / East Grand Forks