



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2077

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action

January 6, 2023

Good morning Madam Chair Roers and honorable members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 2077 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill, with adoption of the changes proposed by the North Dakota Gaming Alliance.

Our organization is, and always has been, opposed to legalized gambling in North Dakota. In part, we are opposed to gambling given the variety of disorders and negative secondary impacts it can create for North Dakota families. It is vital that we as a state help our citizens deal with these issues sooner as opposed to later – particularly before gambling disorders create even worse problems down the road.

Senate Bill 2077, with proposed changes, would preserve the current mandate to fund gambling disorder prevention and treatment, would allow the ND Department of Health and Human Services to manage and distribute these funds with greater flexibility, and would increase funding for gambling disorder prevention from its current level of \$10,000 per quarter to \$80,000 per quarter. For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you please vote Senate Bill 2077, with proposed changes, out of committee with a “DO PASS” recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I am now happy to stand for any questions.

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