

To: Senate State and Local Committee Members

From: Sergeant Anthony Hauf

Date: January 9, 2023

RE: SB 2130

Dear Senator Roers, Senator Barta, and members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee,

I am Anthony Hauf, a Sergeant at Heart of America Correctional Center in Rugby, ND. My testimony is in support of SB 2130.

I would like the Senate State and Local Government Committee to consider passing SB 2130 so that "correctional officer staff" by definition of NDCC 12-44.1-01(4) can be included in NDCC 15-10-18.5 "Free tuition in North Dakota institutions of higher education for survivor of firefighter, emergency medical services personnel, or peace officer." The way NDCC 12-63-01(3) is currently written only "Peace Officers" are being considered and not "correctional facility staff". According to NDCC 12-63-01(3) "Peace officer" means a public servant authorized by law or by government agency or branch to enforce the law and to conduct or engage in investigations of violations of the law. While according to NDCC 12-44.1-01(4) "Correctional facility staff" means correctional personnel with titles such as jailer, deputy, counselor, correctional officer, or any other title, whose duties include the ongoing supervision of inmates in a correctional facility.

Myself along with other correctional facility staff is part of the criminal justice system that has to supervise 24/7, individuals that have been arrested/prosecuted. The staff maintain security by settling disputes between inmates, preventing disturbances, assaults, and escapes. The officers, while being armed/trained, are also able to transport prisoners between the correctional facility and courtrooms, medical facilities, and other destinations. Please note that some correctional facilities not only supervise city, county, and state inmates. They can also supervise federal inmates if that facility has federal contracts with agencies, such as United States Marshal Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs. Correctional facility staff with advanced training or college educations can also be utilized in the rehabilitation and counseling of offenders.

Thank You for your consideration,

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