SCR 4007

9 February, 2023

Chairman Roers and Members of the Committee,

I submit this written testimony IN FAVOR of SCR 4007.

My name is Matthew Jameson and I am the one that put together a large scale search in Bismarck/Mandan for Danny Olson and Chase Hurdle last April. I reached out to Badlands Search and Rescue (BSAR) for assistance as the Bismarck Police Department had already seemingly "threw in the towel" and stopped the search. I cannot say I blame them; City and County resources only go so far. That is where Search and Rescue (SAR) come in to play.

It is a common misconception that SAR operates as a rouge entity doing whatever they please, and I can assure you, based on my experience, that is far from the truth. The fact is, no one operates more closely with local law enforcement than SAR. In fact, if local law enforcement does not give them permission to assist, they simply will not.

Badlands SAR is a registered 501(c)(3) organization which survives solely on private donations, and is also awarded the potential for Charitable Gaming dollars. If you look at our neighbors to the East in Minnesota, they have rely heavily on SAR teams which ,in many cases, have more available funds for newer more advanced search technologies than local law enforcement. They are also given a special opportunity to gain much more in depth search and rescue training than some departments allow.

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I see absolutely no reason that SCR 4007 should not be passed, and I urge you to vote IN FAVOR on SCR 4007.

Sincerely,

Matthew Jameson