

To: North Dakota Senate- State and Local Government Committee

RE: SCR 4007

Date: February 9, 2023

I am writing in support of SCR 4007. My name is Karly Brennan and my family has experienced first-hand the importance of needing SAR services in North Dakota.

I personally reached out to Badlands Search and Rescue when our family member, Joby Seagren went missing on the Missouri River June 5th, 2021. Local law enforcement and emergency services were deployed after the initial 911 call came in, but it was made clear to our family that limited search efforts would be made due to limited resources and staff availability on the dive team. Searches were only done for the first 48hrs by water and then the only option left was the Highway Patrol plane to fly over the river twice daily.

No family should be discouraged right out of the gate. We knew as a family that we were in a recovery mode, but we were left alone day after day until Badlands Search and Rescue was given clearance to assist in our search efforts. For the first time in days, we felt heard and relieved to have guidance in performing a community search effort.

Anytime there is a situation that would require SAR services, it is so vitally important to have these services deployed and made available at the same time emergency and law enforcement are sent to a scene. With all agencies working together, I believe the overall outcome will be more efficient and boost the amount of time available to assist in finding the injured, missing or help recover someone in a drowning.

ND is a wonderful state with so many amazing areas to hunt, fish, bike and enjoy water activities. With that being said, cases are on the rise and would benefit greatly having SAR in place. I feel if SAR would have been available to our family immediately, we may have found Joby sooner versus having to live the hell we did for nine agonizing days waiting for him to "bloat and float."

Thank you for taking the time to listen and please take into account all the future families that may require SAR in our state. I urge you to vote IN FAVOR of SCR 4007.

Sincerely,

Karly Brennan