

# GRAND FORKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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**SHERIFF ANDY SCHNEIDER**

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To: Transportation Committee Members  
From: Sheriff Andy Schneider  
Date: February 1, 2023  
RE: SB 2362

Dear Transportation Committee members,

My name is Andy Schneider, and I have the privilege of being the Sheriff of Grand Forks County. I come before you today to give testimony regarding why I am in favor of SB 2362, personally and professionally.

- By simply encouraging personal safety with a yes vote, you can have the most significant financial impact this session with a fiscal note of zero dollars.
- No driver is immune from being involved in a crash, nor can they completely control avoiding crashes.
- Persons' choices to not buckle up do not effect only that individual and their loved ones.
- Personal and professional experiences responding to crashes where persons were and were not buckled.
- Emotional impact on emergency responders.
- Financial impact on agencies for days off for responding officers (recovery from critical incidents). Cost for visits to Psychologists, return to work verification.
- Temporary impact on staffing for all first responders and all directly associated with victim.
- Implementation of new equipment and traffic violation laws has not resulted in exponential growth in citations for that offense, nor a significant reduction in deaths.
- Agency has daily operations, which do not allow constant enforcement of laws.
- All involved with this process have done what has been repeatedly asked by the legislature session after session. I respectfully request for the elected leaders to listen to all the experts and provide the missing link, a primary seat belt requirement.
- Buckle up, it will save your life someday.

I sincerely thank you for your time and consideration today. I am available at any time of day or night to further discuss this important bill with any and all of you.

Andy Schneider  
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Grand Forks County  
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