

Senate Transportation Testimony

Kyle Erickson

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District 5

My name is Kyle Erickson. I am testifying in support of SCR 4004. I use transit every day as I work full time as a Research Associate at the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities and am unable to drive. I represent a significant population in my district that rely on these services to be contributing members of society. While these services are a godsend, for people in my situation, they are extremely limiting

Currently, Minot has two options for transportation if you are a wheelchair user, the City Bus and Souris Basin Transportation. The City Bus has extremely limited routes and doesn't run on weekends. Souris Basin fills up quickly and requires a 24-hour notice to schedule. This means spontaneous trips are out of the question and that trips in town as a wheelchair user is a logistical nightmare.

That's why I feel like a study would be crucial to provide transportation to this vulnerable population. While there are options for wheelchair users like myself, they are extremely limiting (hours of service, long ride times, scheduling). I have full confidence that if a study took place, transportation options for the disabled could only improve.

Thank you so much for serving our state and taking time to review to my testimony. Please vote yes on SCR 4004

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