January 25, 2023

Chairperson Wobbema and Committee Members,

I strongly urge a DO Pass on SB 2151. The North Dakota we live in today was in large part built by immigrant individuals and families searching for a better life and choosing to make their home here. It is in keeping with the heritage and history of our state, and an expression of gratitude to our ancestors, to support new immigrants and their families in establishing a life here. Refugees and immigrants already are key parts of our communities across the state, bringing a rich depth of skills, experiences, and values that contribute to the shared future of North Dakota. Passing this bill to establish an office of immigration and the immigration workforce loan program are solid, thoughtful steps toward bolstering support of this amazing population within North Dakota and also addressing our workforce crisis. I urge a DO Pass on SB 2151.

Sincerely, Sylvia Bull 522 N 16th St Bismarck, ND 58501