Senate Bill 2151 – IN SUPPORT

Chairman and Members of the Committee, As an entrepreneur in North Dakota, I am writing to urge you to support the Senate Bill No. 2151.

The senate bill no. 2151 is a bill for an Act to create and enact a new chapter to title 6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the creation of an office of immigration and the immigration workforce loan program; to provide a transfer; to provide an appropriation; and to provide for a report.

The success of our nation comes, in large part, from our longstanding tradition of encouraging people seeking a better life to leave everything they know to contribute to the United States.

Immigrants are <u>highly entrepreneurial</u>, launching new companies at twice the rate of native-born Americans and creating large numbers of jobs. All of this increases employment opportunities for native-born American workers, boosts wages and strengthens the middle class.

Immigrants are innovators, job creators, and consumers with an enormous spending power that drives our economy, and creates employment opportunities for all Americans.

Immigrants added \$2 trillion to the U.S. GDP in 2016 and \$458.7 billion to state, local, and federal taxes in 2018. In 2018, after immigrants spent billions of dollars on state and local, and federal taxes, they were left with \$1.2 trillion in spending power, which they used to purchase goods and services, stimulating local business activity.

Proposed office to support immigrants would have great impact on our economy

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Abdishakur Mohamed