

Chairman Wobbema and members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee,

My name is Loren Myran. I am a retired farmer and rancher from Taylor, ND, I am in favor of SB 2151. The reason for my interest in this bill is because of the positive encounters my wife and I had with the relocation of refugees from Czechoslovakia and Romania. It was a fulfilling experience to help find a home for the families enroll the children in school, guide the parents in finding employment aligned to their previous occupations, assist with language barriers and cultural differences, and befriend them as new members in our community. This resulted in a lifetime bond and friendship that we continue to cherish today.

ND has around 30,000 unfilled employment opportunities. This bill would help provide financial support to immigrants who more than likely have given up their lifetime assets so they can get a new start in life in our country. Immigrants bring with them outstanding talent, skills, and education that can be used to enhance our state and fill our job markets. Most importantly they come here to work, even the hard labor and service jobs that are not being filled. When ND provides an avenue for immigrants to come to our state we both win. Our job markets get filled and the immigrants find a way to support their families and build a new life.

I am excited to hear that the ND Legislature is considering this bipartisan bill, that will provide opportunities for immigrants and the state of ND. When helping others you always receive more than you give.

Thank you for your time and consideration in supporting SB2151.

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