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Testimony in Opposition of SB 2184
Senate Workforce Development Committee

February 10, 2023

Chairman Wobbema and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sherri Miller, and I am the Executive Director for the North Dakota Nurses Association. The NDNA opposes SB 2184.

We are not in favor of anything to upset the already efficient processes in place at the North Dakota Board of Nursing. We're grateful for the work they do daily to proactively regulate the practice of nursing in our state and license over 21,000 nurses.

To give you our background, NDNA is the only professional organization representing all registered nurses (RNs) in North Dakota. The mission of NDNA is to advance the nursing profession by promoting professional development of nurses, fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the safety and well-being of nurses in the workplace, and by advocating on health care issues affecting nurses.

We are concerned regarding SB 2184, specifically pertaining to licensure renewals. This legislation would require nurses in ND to renew annually instead of every other year. NDNA is concerned as this could contribute to a large fiscal impact and the NDBON may need to re-evaluate licensure fees based on the fiscal impact. This in turn would affect all of the nurses who are renewing their nursing licenses. Renewal fees every 2 years for nurses in ND are currently \$130 for LPNs and \$140 for RNs.

We are already in a serious nursing shortage in the state and request no further roadblocks to nurses and care of patients. As a part of NDNA's advocacy platform, we strive to reduce such regulatory barriers for nurses.

We respectfully ask you to "do not pass" SB 2184.

Thank you,

Sherri Miller BSN, RN
Executive Director
North Dakota Nurses Association