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1515 Burnt Boat Drive Suite C #325
Bismarck, ND 58503 701-335-6376

Testimony in Support of SB 2288 Senate Workforce Development Committee

January 26, 2023

Chairman Wobbema and Senate Workforce Development Committee Members:

Good morning. My name is Sherri Miller. I would like to address you today in support of SB 2288. I am representing a part of the healthcare team that makes up the largest group of professionals, nurses. I have been a registered nurse in North Dakota for 24 years. I am also the Executive Director for the North Dakota Nurses Association. The NDNA is the only professional organization representing all nurses in North Dakota. Part of our mission is to advance the nursing profession by promoting the professional development of nurses and to advocate on health care issues affecting nurses and the public. Right now, we are actively advocating for the nursing workforce with recruitment and retention tactics.

As has been previously mentioned, our state is in a nursing shortage due to many factors. The Nursing Program Matching Grants is inclusive to all providers of nursing education and allows more efforts to support nurses in North Dakota including private universities and Career Technical Education.

If we can do this well, we can keep people in our state by growing our own nurses rather than relying so much on travelers and international nurses.

We respectfully ask you to pas SB 2288, the Nursing Program Matching Grants.

This concludes my testimony.

Sherri Miller, BS, BSN, RN Executive Director North Dakota Nurses Association