



Valley City Barnes County Public Library
410 N Central Avenue
Valley City, ND 58072

January 23, 2025

Dear Representative Nathe and members of the House of Appropriations Education and Environment Division

My name is Anita Tulp and I am the Director at Valley City Barnes County Public Library. I am writing to you in support of HB 1013, concerning the budget of the North Dakota State Library.

The North Dakota State Library is an invaluable resource to our North Dakota libraries and particularly for smaller libraries such as ours. With our connection to the ND State Library, we have access to many resources and materials that our budget could not provide for our patrons on our own. It also provides a portion of our funding and the ability to apply for grant funds that can be used for growing library services in new areas for our patrons. For instance, we received a grant to create memory kits that can be checked out by care facilities and family members. These kits help those with memory loss and those trying to communicate with them find common subjects that stimulate memory and connections to their life experiences creating opportunities for conversation and interaction.

Our library also depends on the Inter-library loan system to provide items that our patrons need and desire that we do not own in our library. The ND State Library provides access to items in other libraries in our state as well as items that might be in a library out of state. The cost of this program is going up because of postage prices rising, however, I consider it a small price to pay when you can tell a patron that you found the book or resource they were looking for and see the joy on their face when they come to pick it up.

The ND State Library is also a great resource for us as librarians. The wealth of educational resources they offer for new librarians and new board members provides valuable information to ensure our libraries are well informed and can provide the best service possible to our patrons and communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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