

Dear Representative,

The Valley Snowdrifters Snowmobile Club was established in 1994 to promote safe snowmobile trails. For the past 31 years we have maintained a single gaming site in Oakwood to produce revenue to further that cause. The gaming funds significantly contribute to maintaining trails on the North Dakota public trail system after the state funds for the year have been exhausted. In addition to providing a safe riding trail system, our efforts assist in promoting ND tourism and youth activities during the winter months. None of our funds provide a direct benefit to our officers and members.

The organization's excess gaming income is donated to surrounding communities focused primarily on youth activities, education and organizations. Last year alone they included: Fair Oaks youth golf program, youth trap shooting program at the Walsh County gun club, youth softball program, Little Spuds - childcare center in Hoople, Legion Baseball program, youth baseball program, Grafton School robotics program, After-prom committee, and a snowmobile give-away where kids came out for food and fun during a drive to enter event put on by our snowmobile club.

We have also made numerous donations to other charitable organizations and public facilities including: Heritage Village, Life Skills and Transition Center, Walsh County Food Pantry and numerous Community area Medical Fundraising events that benefit the residents within our communities. We pride ourselves by giving back to the local communities, organizations and non-profit entities.

Removing the public-spirited organization definition for snowmobile clubs for designation as a non-profit would have an extremely detrimental impact on the Oakwood/Grafton Community as a whole. Also, being an active member of the Grafton Curling Club I fully support their testimonies as well. Annual donations derived from our gaming site activities significantly support our communities. We believe these funds make a very large impact within our surrounding communities in many ways to support our youth development and programs that shape the culture of North Dakota.

This letter is to respectfully request that you Do Not support **SB 2035 – relating to the definitions of an educational organization and public-spirited organization** that has recently been submitted to your Committee.

Respectfully,

J. Nicholas Desautel

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Nicholas Desautel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.