House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee 69th Legislative Session Representative Schauer-Chair

Chairman Schauer and House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of HB 1076.

Intent of this bill:

Amend death benefit for ND National Guard members on State Active Duty (SAD) to match Federal benefit while on Federal status.

Need for bill:

ND National Guard members are not covered by any federal military benefits while on SAD. While on SAD the members are working for the state of North Dakota under the orders of the Governor. Pay scale and benefits are set and provided by the state.

It is important we are prepared in advance to care for those who may pay the ultimate sacrifice. Hopefully these funds will never be spent.

Outcome of bill:

ND National Guard members will be properly covered in the event of death during SAD.

Thank you for your consideration. Lonnie Wangen Commissioner-NDDVA