

January 31, 2025

House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee Representative Austen Schauer, Chair HB 1568

RE: Testimony of Dr. Tim Mahoney, Mayor of the City of Fargo in SUPPORT of HB 1568

Chair Schauer and Members of the House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee:

The City of Fargo submits this testimony to the House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee in SUPPORT of House Bill 1568 and urges a "**Do Pass**" recommendation.

North Dakota and its communities benefit from strong, bilateral trade relationships with partners and allies from other areas of the world. HB 1568 creates another opportunity to showcase North Dakota's agricultural and industrial assets to a trading partner. At the same time, the North Dakota Ireland Trade Commission will provide our businesses and residents with the opportunity to learn more about investment Ireland can make in the State of North Dakota.

Creating mutual investment and interest in economic development between North Dakota and Ireland will benefit us all, and the City of Fargo welcomes the opportunity to increase economic vitality and partnership. We are excited to bring North Dakota and Ireland closer together for years to come to support our shared goals and interests.

I respectfully request the House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee support HB 1568 and urge a "**Do Pass**" recommendation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Timothy J. Mahoney Mayor