



# North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL  
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## Representative Jayme Davis

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## COMMITTEES:

Human Services  
Political Subdivisions

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Good morning Chairman Schauer, Vice Chair Satrom and, members of the committee,

My name is Jayme Davis, and I am a Representative from District 9 that includes two Tribal Nations: Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and Spirit Lake Nation. District 9 also includes the beautiful Peace Gardens.

I am here today in strong support of House Bill 1581. This bill appropriates \$500,000 to the Department of Commerce for tribal tourism grants, providing up to \$100,000 per tribal government to enhance and promote tourism opportunities.

Investing in tribal tourism strengthens local economies, supports small businesses, and promotes North Dakota's rich Indigenous cultures. Tribal nations have unique histories, traditions, and landscapes that attract visitors, but they often lack the resources to fully develop and market these opportunities. This bill helps address that gap.

These funds could support cultural centers, outdoor tourism, marketing efforts, and tribal-owned businesses, creating jobs while preserving and sharing our heritage. Tribal tourism benefits not just Indigenous communities, but the entire state by expanding North Dakota's tourism economy.

I urge a "do pass" recommendation on HB 1581. Thank you for your time, and I'm happy to answer any questions.