



Chairman Schauer and Members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

I am Brekka Kramer, President | CEO of the Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC). I offer testimony in favor of Senate Bill 2398, which is aimed at protecting crucial missions of the Department of Defense and our national security. MACEDC firmly supports limiting encroachment that could impact force readiness at Minot Air Force Base.

Senate Bill 2398 protects against actions that interfere with or negatively impacts military base testing, training, and other operations. MACEDC supports the legislative intent to discourage activities that interfere with or negatively impact military installation operations, testing, training, and overall force readiness.

The boundary of Minot Air Force Base includes more than the base itself, it includes 15 missile alert facilities, 150 Minuteman II missiles located in underground launch facilities positioned in the 8,500 square mile missile complex in the northwest part of the state.

Minot truly isn't Minot without Minot Air Force Base. Minot Air Force Base is the only installation within the Department of Defense with two legs of the nuclear triad, the 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing. The 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing are Air Force Global Strike Command units. The nuclear triad serves as the backbone of America's national security providing strategic deterrence, global strike and combat support....anytime, anywhere! It should be noted that North Dakota is also preparing for Sentinel, the weapon system to replace the aging Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile system. It represents the critical modernization of the land-based leg of the U.S. nuclear triad.

I have the distinct honor of serving on the North Dakota Military Commission and appreciate the hard work that the Governor and State of North Dakota has done and continues to do in supporting military and making North Dakota the most military friendly state.

Military has an economic impact of around \$1.2 billion in North Dakota. Minot Air Force Base is over half that state military economic impact at the newly released \$651.6 million (FY24), which is up over \$30 million from last year. Minot Air Force Base plays a vital role in our national defense and our state economy, and it is our responsibility to do what we can to protect the installations while allowing for engagement at all levels.

Appreciate your attention to this matter and your commitment to North Dakota.

Thank you,

Brekka Kramer
Minot Area Chamber EDC President | CEO