



THE CHAMBER
FARGO MOORHEAD WEST FARGO

Letter of Support – HB 1035

January 8th, 2024

Chairman M. Ruby and Members of the House Human Services Committee,

For the record, my name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our over 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of House Bill 1035.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. We believe the passage of this legislation will further improve the state's workforce landscape. By adopting this licensure compact for social workers, North Dakota will streamline the licensing process and enhance its ability to attract skilled professionals while promoting cooperation with neighboring compact member states, such as Minnesota and South Dakota.

Additionally, this bill provides greater flexibility for military spouses who are often highly qualified but face barriers when relocating due to military orders. By reducing burdensome and duplicative licensing requirements, we empower these individuals to continue their professional careers, contributing to our local economy and enriching our communities.

House Bill 1035 is a vital step in improving the workforce environment in North Dakota, enhancing our ability to attract talent from across the nation. We encourage this committee and the Legislative Assembly to support this bill, along with other initiatives, to help us address our state's critical workforce challenges.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your commitment to North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Cale Dunwoody
Vice President of Public Policy
Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce