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House Human Services Committee
Chairman – Representative Matthew Ruby
January 8, 2024

Letter of Support HB 1035

Testimony of:
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ND Military Commission Executive Committee Member
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Chairman Ruby, Vice Chair Frelich, and Members of the House Human Services Committee,

I am Brekka Kramer, President | CEO of the Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC). On behalf of our organization and member investors, I offer testimony in support of House Bill 1035.

The MACEDC's mission is to advocate for and invest in business activity by being a collaborative partner in the community, focused on improving quality of life for all. MACEDC has five key strategic pillars, two of them being workforce development and military support. We believe that House Bill 1035 as proposed would have a positive impact on the workforce environment of our great state by supporting licensed social workers, specifically military spouses, in their endeavor to continue work during their relocation.

We see higher demand for social workers in our communities to assist with a number of challenges, including child welfare, poverty, mental health, and family assistance. This social work licensing compact would ease the burden of relocation for these individuals moving from the other 22 compact states for a smooth transition into social work in North Dakota.

Making the licensing transition easier not only benefits the social workers but everyone in North Dakota, allowing them to provide the necessary assistance and infrastructure needed in our social services system.

I am a proud member of the North Dakota Military Commission, which has a vision to make North Dakota the most military friendly state in the nation. As a long-term advocate for improved licensure and career portability for military service members and their spouses, I ask for your support of House Bill 1035 and am available for any questions you may have.