



**2025 HB 1468**

**House Human Services Committee**

**Representative Matthew Ruby, Chairman**

**January 28, 2025**

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Tim Blasl, President of the North Dakota Hospital Association. I am here to testify in support of House Bill 1468. I ask that you give this bill a **Do Pass** recommendation.

Hospitals support the bill because it provides funding for a critical need in North Dakota. The bill provides \$16 million to the department of health and human services for the purpose of providing a behavioral health facility grant.

The \$16 million grant would increase the number of inpatient behavioral health beds in the west central human service center region by thirty. It's our understanding the funding would increase both adult and adolescent inpatient beds.

Hospitals support the bill because we believe there is a need for more inpatient behavioral health beds in North Dakota. The funding will allow us to begin meeting the needs for inpatient behavioral health services in the west central region of the state.

In summary, we hope that you will give it a **Do Pass** recommendation.

I would be happy to respond to any questions you may have. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Blasl, President  
North Dakota Hospital Association