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To the Legislative Assembly of North Dakota,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 1612 regarding a North Dakota center for aerospace medicine. As an alumni of UND, this program would have been substantially beneficial for the students of UND and the North Dakota community. This industry requires safety to be on the forefront of all decisions, and that includes the health of those in the industry. The University of North Dakota has been a leader in mental health awareness within the aerospace industry including the Mental Health Summit and peer-to-peer support resource program. By enacting this program, UND will continue to lead the industry in awareness and research. During my time at UND, I watched other aviation students struggle with mental health issues without resources and suicide. This is an epidemic that is affecting young adults everywhere, especially those within this industry. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Emery

Horizon Air First Officer and 2022 UND Alumni

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