



Testimony of Brenda Nagel, President & CEO
Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC
In Opposition of HB 1141
January 26, 2025

Representative Jonathan Warrey, Chair, and members of the Industry, Business and Labor Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition to HB 1141. The Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC proudly represents over 1,200 business members in Bismarck Mandan, Burleigh and Morton County, including the cities of Bismarck, Mandan, Burleigh, and Morton County. When our members invest in the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC, it benefits them by providing networking and engagement opportunities through various events and committees. Our members benefit from local relationships that create opportunity and stimulate growth of their own business and other businesses in Bismarck and Mandan. We offer advocacy, business education, and function as a platform to address challenges that contribute to our thriving local business environment. Our workforce and economic development efforts directly benefit our members, including public entities, as we are focused on attracting a diverse workforce and businesses to help grow and sustain Bismarck and Mandan.

HB 1141 would prohibit our public entities from partnering with their local and state Chamber EDC entities. Every community that is thriving and moving business forward is connected to a Chamber of Commerce and/or Economic Development organization and this bill would be detrimental to the forward movement of business communities in Bismarck Mandan and North Dakota.

I respectfully urge a DO NOT PASS action on HB 1141.

Sincerely,

Brenda Nagel
President & CEO
Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC