

03/23/2025



FROM THE DESK OF ADAM MARTIN FOUNDER AND CEO OF F5 PROJECT

House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 2128. While there are elements of the bill that have merit, I believe its overall impact will lead to collateral consequences that will adversely affect the community as a whole, including transitional living programs, service providers, agencies, and taxpayers.

The potential negative outcomes of this bill would be more acceptable if it were to result in a safer environment. However, based on my eight years of experience providing transitional living solutions in multiple cities across North Dakota, I have seen firsthand the importance of effective support systems. The F5 Project has been a valuable asset in facilitating successful transitions for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR), helping to achieve numerous positive outcomes through transitional living, peer support, Free Through Recovery, and Community Connect.

The primary reason for my opposition to this bill is the proposed removal of incentives for individuals while they are incarcerated. This change will diminish the motivation for personal improvement and growth among those in the system. By creating what can be termed "dead time," individuals will feel powerless to change their circumstances, leading to a sense of hopelessness.

If we applied this same mindset to industries, schools, or parenting, we would witness widespread disengagement and resignation. Such an approach fosters a stagnant and unhealthy environment, negatively impacting not only the inmates but also correctional officers, families, and communities at large. It is crucial to maintain incentives that encourage positive behavior and personal development during incarceration to promote a healthier and more productive environment for everyone involved.

Adam Martin, Founder and CEO of F5 Project

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Martin'.



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