

January 23, 2025  
House Appropriations Committee  
HB 1193  
Representative Donald W. Longmuir, Chair

For the record, I am Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson, and I am appearing on behalf of the Chiefs of Police Association of North Dakota. I am also the deputy director and attorney for the North Dakota League of Cities.

The Chiefs of Police appear today in support of HB 1193. This bill creates the Peace Officer and Correctional Officer Appreciation Grant Program. Under the program licensed state and political subdivision law enforcement officers and state correctional officers that have been employed with the same employer for at least four years are eligible for a bonus of up to \$6,000 per officer per fiscal year.

Police chiefs often share their concerns about their departments' ability to recruit and retain qualified law enforcement officers. This bill helps address the retention piece so that police departments can incentivize their experienced law enforcement officers to stay with their agency and in law enforcement.

The Chiefs of Police respectfully request a Do Pass recommendation on HB 1193.