

**Testimony
House Bill 1106
January 8, 2025**

My name is Julianne Horntvedt and I am the Executive Director of the North Dakota State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I am submitting testimony on behalf of our Advocacy Committee.

It is crucial for the state to invest in transit systems that are accessible to people with disabilities. Currently, individuals with disabilities in North Dakota face significant barriers when it comes to transportation, limiting their ability to access essential services, employment opportunities, and social events. State funding would help stabilize the system, expand transit routes, increase staffing, and extend service hours, ensuring that people with disabilities can travel more freely and independently. With these improvements, we would create a more inclusive society where everyone, regardless of ability, can contribute to the workforce and fully participate in community life.

This investment would not only improve the lives of people with disabilities, but also strengthen the economy and promote greater equality across the state.

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