



Testimony of Bill Dahl in support of SB 2390  
February 6, 2025

**Chairman Luick, Vice Chairwomen Myrdal, and Committee Members,**

I am writing to express my strong support for **SB 2390**, which aims to establish the Rural Catalyst Grant Program. This program will be invaluable in supporting quality-of-life improvement projects for rural communities like ours.

As the director of **Grafton Parks and Recreation**, I can speak firsthand about the importance of community investments that enhance the well-being of our residents. Grafton is a small town with a population of around 4,200, and our Park District operates with just four full-time employees and very limited resources. Despite these constraints, the quality of life in Grafton plays a key role in attracting families and fostering a thriving community.

However, rural communities like ours face significant challenges in providing updated facilities, equipment, and recreational programs due to limited financial resources. Grants, fundraising efforts, donations, and volunteers are essential for our survival, but we are continually in competition with larger neighboring cities for the resources needed to grow and maintain our community amenities.

By supporting **SB 2390**, you will help level the playing field for small rural communities like ours. This program will provide critical funding to enhance the services we can offer our residents and attract new families to our community.

I respectfully urge you to pass **SB 2390** and support rural communities in their efforts to build a better quality of life for all.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,  
Bill Dahl  
Director, Grafton Parks and Recreation