



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

January 27, 2025
Re: SB 2282

Chairman Weber and Members of the Senate Finance & Taxation Committee,

My name is Bill Bauman and I serve as CEO of the Missouri Valley Family YMCA here in Bismarck. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 2282 on behalf of the North Dakota Alliance of YMCAs.

Child Care Impacts

The YMCAs are collectively the largest provider of childcare services in the state. Childcare and early education are fundamental to the well-being of our children and the economic stability of our families. According to recent studies, about 78% of families with children under 18 have both parents in the workforce. This underscores the necessity of robust childcare services to support these working parents.

We know that quality childcare provides improved employee satisfaction, reduced absenteeism, and increased productivity. Offering child care-related benefits helps attract and retain talent, which is crucial in a competitive job market. For families, accessible and affordable childcare is essential, allowing parents to participate fully in the workforce. This participation not only enhances family income but also contributes significantly to the broader economy.

Child Care Incentives

The state's historical investment in child care programs and funding last biennium provided through the Department of Health and Human Services have significantly helped families manage child care costs. Additionally, the child care worker benefit program allowing child care workers to receive assistance when they bring their own children to work has been an invaluable resource for the YMCAs in recruiting and retaining staff.

As the legislature evaluates the 2023 child care package, there is a clear opportunity to further involve and incentivize the business community to support local child care offerings, benefiting the state's workforce.

Many of our donor partners have contributed to the YMCA's child care infrastructure, including lease costs, staff support, and operations. Specifically in Bismarck, Sanford Health, CHI St. Alexius, and Basin Electric Power Cooperative, partnered with the YMCA to expanded access to infant, toddler, and preschool care, through the Youth Development Center (YDC) North location—for their employees and the community. We believe those contributions should be recognized, and we

would argue, incentivized by the state to encourage broader participation in similar child care partnerships.

Amendment Request

We would like to request your consideration for an amendment that would expand the scope of the child care contribution credit to include capital contributions made by individuals for the development and support of child care infrastructure.

1. The total credit available with respect to each qualifying employee is equal to thirty percent of the taxpayer's aggregate child care contributions toward:
 - a. Child care costs of qualified employees paid during the taxable year in which the credit is claimed;
 - b. **Costs related to the construction, renovation, or improvement of child care facilities;**
 - c. **Lease or rental payments for properties used as child care centers;**
 - d. **Purchase of equipment or materials essential for the operation of child care facilities; and**
 - e. **Financial contributions reserved for securing individual child care slots in a facility for employees or the community.**
2. The credit must be claimed for the taxable year in which the child care contributions are made.

We believe a tax credit incentive encompassing these components would engage more corporate partners and more employers working to recruit and retain workforce, and build a healthier ecosystem for the child care providers in the state.

Thank you for your consideration as we work together to address an issue with a direct impact on workforce development in North Dakota.

Thank you,

Alliance of North Dakota YMCAs



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TODAY. TOMORROW.

TOGETHER.

NORTH DAKOTA ALLIANCE OF YMCAS 2024 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



\$1,736,663 in financial assistance was given to support kids and families from economically disadvantaged backgrounds to participate in North Dakota YMCA programs and activities



3,230 children were enrolled in YMCA licensed childcare centers



29,555 youth participated in out-of-school-time activities at the Y that focus on holistically fostering the physical, social and emotional development of kids

IN ADDITION TO FULL TIME STAFF AT ALL LOCATIONS, YMCAS ARE OFTEN THE FIRST EMPLOYERS OF YOUNG PEOPLE. YMCAS ALSO OFFER OLDER ADULTS OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPLEMENT THEIR INCOME WHILE BEING PART OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY.

2,113 individuals are employed by North Dakota YMCAs



\$25,477,591 was paid in wages and benefits by North Dakota YMCAs



WE ARE COMMUNITY

The YMCA makes accessible the support and opportunities that empower people and communities to learn, grow and thrive. There is no other nonprofit quite like the YMCA. That's because in 10,000 neighborhoods across the nation, we have the presence and partnerships to not just promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change.



Communities with high rates of volunteerism tend to have greater income equality than similar communities that do not.



When members make a friend they are 50% more likely to stay with the YMCA.

North Dakota YMCA's have over 100 community partnerships, some of which include:



- Foster Families
- Military Families
- Easter Seals
- United Way

- American Red Cross
- AmeriCorps
- Area Churches
- Local Hospitals
- Boys & Girls Club
- Chamber of Commerce
- City Governments
- Schools, Colleges & Universities

- Department of Corrections
- Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch
- Dakota Medica
- Foundation Ministerial Association
- Healthy North Dakota
- Home School Groups



CARING | HONESTY | RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY



"I love the friendships and coffee at the Y. For many of us that are seniors, it provides a primary social time in our lives."

"Thank you for providing such a wonderful place for fitness and socializing!"

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Alliance of North Dakota YMCAs

Grand Forks YMCA Family Center
215 N 7th St, Grand Forks
gfyymca.org

Missouri Valley Family YMCA
1608 N Washington St, Bismarck
bismarckymca.org

The YMCA of the Northern Sky
400 1st Ave S, & 4243 19th Ave S, Fargo
www.ymcanorthernsky.org

YMCA of Minot North Dakota
3515 16th St SW, Minot
ymcaminot.org