

## Testimony in Support of SB 2264

Dear Senators,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 2264, which proposes a straightforward update to language in the Century Code. These changes are simple. They will not impose any hardships on North Dakotans, nor will they have any fiscal impact. Importantly, the bill does not alter the definition of legal marriage in North Dakota, which remains a union between two consenting adults.

What this bill *does* offer is a meaningful acknowledgment for many individuals in our state. By updating the language in the Century Code to reflect and include all married individuals, it sends a clear message that North Dakota values all its residents. The existing language excludes some married individuals who live, work, raise families, and contribute to our communities.

Passing this bill is an opportunity to show that our Legislature is committed to making a positive difference for its constituents. Let this simple yet impactful change be part of the good work accomplished this biennium.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to support Senate Bill 2264.

Sincerely,

Kristin Michels

Resident of District 3