

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2264**

Senate Judiciary Committee on Senate Bill 2264

Date of Hearing: January 29, 2025

Debra L. Hoffarth, 1320 11<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Minot, ND 58701

This written testimony is presented in support of Senate Bill 2264.

Love, commitment, and family are values that everyone cherishes. Marriages are rooted in love, commitment, and shared responsibility. Extending this right to same-sex couples is not only a matter of equality but also a reflection of our shared values of fairness, dignity, and respect for all families. This bill will strengthen communities and provide legal and social stability for families. It allows all couples access to vital protections, such as inheritance rights, health care decision-making, and tax benefits, ensuring their ability to care for one another in times of need. It also recognizes, validates, and supports all families.

Please support Senate Bill 2264.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debra L. Hoffarth".