

February 6, 2025

Senate State and Local Government Committee

Honorable Kristen Roers, Chair

North Dakota State Capitol, Peace Garden Room

RE: SB 2308 – Support testimony presented by Corey Mock, Chief Information Officer

Madam Chair and members of the State and Local Government Committee, my name is Corey Mock, Chief Information Officer for North Dakota Information Technology (NDIT). I am here today in support of SB 2308, specifically with adoption of the amendments proposed by the Attorney General's Office.

Health Information Technology Advisory Council (HITAC) was established in 2009 as an advising entity for the newly formed Health Information Network (HIN). Today, HIN is the backbone of electronic medical records within North Dakota and the conduit which connects most health care providers. Advisory working groups provide valuable feedback for HIN operation. Removal of this statutory language gives NDIT flexibility to engage stakeholders and build new working relationships as the HIN adapts to evolving health care needs. SB 2308 will have no adverse effect on HIN or the existence of advisory groups.

Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) and the governance committee were established in 2007, with modifications in 2011 and 2015. Because of the breadth of agencies contributing to SLDS (K-12, Higher Education, early childhood services, workforce development), program administration and governance was placed within a neutral agency, NDIT. SB 2308 in its original form would move SLDS governance to the Department of Public Instruction.

After some discussion with stakeholder agencies, every participating entity agreed that SLDS administration and governance should remain within NDIT.

NDIT was created – and now thrives – thanks to engaged clients and stakeholders. The maturity of these programs eliminates the need for these advisory committees to remain in Century Code. SB 2308, as amended, allows NDIT and our contributing partners to remain effective, agile, and adaptable.