

Chairman Wobbema and members of the Committee, my name is Phil Davis, and I am the Workforce Services Director at Job Service North Dakota. I am providing this testimony in support of SB2239.

Job Service North Dakota is a member of the Workforce Development Council (WDC). The WDC is responsible for making recommendations to the Governor to address workforce within North Dakota. This year, the WDC made nine recommendations, and the content within SB2239 contains language that is directly aligned to one of these recommendations.

Job Service North Dakota has strong working relationships with employers, training providers, and our industry partners in every region of the state. We understand the workforce challenges within the state, and we support the need for growth of the apprenticeship program not only for our business community, but also for the opportunities it presents to job seekers and our training participants who are seeking to advance their own education and develop the skills that an apprenticeship program provides. This bill will support current and future apprentices in their training and support needs.

In closing, Job Service North Dakota supports this bill if it is aligned with the results of HB1036.

Thank you for your time and consideration.