

Testimony to the

**INTERIM JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

Prepared August 15, 2012 by the North Dakota Association of Counties

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**CONCERNING EXTENDED JUVENILE JURISDICTION (EJJ)**

Chairman Nething and members of the committee, the North Dakota Association of Counties represents all of the North Dakota Counties and their respective offices. Today I am speaking to you based on a large amount of feedback that has been received from our State's Attorney members.

Since this concept was first introduced in the 2011 legislature, we at NDACo have been seeking feedback from our members and other interested parties regarding all aspects of creating a new mechanism for dealing with the juvenile court issues found in this bill draft.

While we have had a significant amount of our State's Attorney members support this concept, we have also had several which questioned some of the technical issues and a few who questioned the need for the bill altogether. Because of the honest disagreement among our members, we must decline to either support or oppose this bill draft.

As is every citizen's right, we recognize many of our members may or may not continue to work with this bill draft and we at NDACo will continue to monitor the committee's work so if things change we can continue to survey our members and report back to you.

Thank you.