

March 12, 2021

Finance and Taxation Committee
Chairman Craig Headland
theadland@nd.gov

Re: Support for Senate Bill 2137

Representative Headland,

The Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation (EDC) would like to express its support and endorsement for SB 2137. This legislation is precisely what is needed to ensure North Dakota remains competitive with our neighboring states, giving North Dakota a chance to attract data centers that grow and diversify the economy.

The Grand Forks Region EDC has identified the data processing and high-tech sector as a top priority and recognizes the economic impact it could have on our state and region. This tax exemption will leverage past state investment within this industry and will create a lasting impact by positioning our state as a national leader, attracting a growing number of companies to the state. Beyond growth, this strategy will help diversify the economy and hedge against commodity downturns.

It is with enthusiasm that the EDC supports SB 2137 and would be happy to discuss that support further. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach me at 701.746.2720 or keithl@grandforks.org.

With Kind Regards,

Keith Lund
President & CEO