

**North Dakota Senate Appropriations Committee  
Chairman – Senator Ray Holmberg  
January 21, 2020**

**Testimony**

**By: Jerome Richter  
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**Senate Bill 2030**

Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee my name is Jerome Richter, Executive Vice President & Chief of Staff at the University of Mary.

I understand that Dr. Polly Peterson, President of the University of Jamestown, is testifying about our two universities being included as eligible applicants for the matching grant program this appropriation is aimed at. The University of Mary joins in that request, and for the same reasons she addresses in her testimony.

The University of Mary has over 3,700 students in 54 majors, 15 masters and 4 doctoral programs. Mary has 546 employees and an annual economic impact in the community of \$209.6m. Our students add thousands of hours of volunteerism to this region and the state. Our programs are designed to meet the workforce needs of our entire state. We exist to provide our students with a top-notch education and build them into servant leaders.

Please consider an amendment on this bill that adds the foundations of private, North Dakota-based universities as eligible applicants for the matching grant program. Thank you.