



DATE: March 15, 2021

TO: Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Sara Vollmer & Lori Heinsohn

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Alcohol and Drug Education Program

Dear House Judiciary Committee:

The purpose of this letter is to communicate the importance of inclusion of education programs as part of the sentencing process for individuals of alcohol-related and drug offenses.

Early intervention has shown an effective method for reducing continued alcohol and drug related problems as well as repetitive infractions.

As an evidence based approved provider of alcohol classes for the state of North Dakota, we see first hand how education provides a supportive and preventative response, rather than a punitive one.

We encourage you to support the inclusion of education programs for our youth to access these services as part of their sentencing process.

Sincerely,

Sara Vollmer

Bismarck State College

Dean, Continuing Education and TrainND

Lori Heinsohn

Bismarck State College

Program Manager, Continuing Education and TrainND