



Senate Judiciary Committee  
Chairperson and Committee Members  
HB 1284 Support

The Downtown Business Association of Bismarck represents over 200 members with 9,000 employees in North Dakota's second largest employment district.

Our Board of Directors has voted to support House Bill 1284. We often host fundraising events large and small for the Bismarck community with food, arts & crafts, and sometimes alcohol. Many families with children are precluded from these events with alcohol because of the presence of alcohol. We've heard from young families and young people about being separated from community events. We've had moms and dads bring a chair and the kids sit on the other side of the beer fence rail. Many other states allow co-mingling. It has been a constant theme that youth in our state feel excluded from these types of events just because they may be an alcohol component. Our neighboring states have a number of solutions tied to co-mingling events such as color-coated wristbands for minors and adults. We have and will continue to have security and volunteers that monitor use and haven't seen any instances with underage drinking at our events.

Please let me know if you have any questions, we recommend favorable consideration of HB1284. Thank you-

Kate Herzog, COO  
Chief Operating Officer  
Downtowners Bismarck