



Joint Technical Corrections Committee – HB 1512

Representative Robin Weisz and Senator Judy Lee, Chairs

November 9, 2021

Chairs Weisz and Lee:

My name is Brian Ritter and I am the President of the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC. Please accept the following testimony on behalf of our organization's nearly 1,200 members in support of the technical corrections proposed in bill HB 1512

Our organization is dedicated to growing Bismarck-Mandan through business advocacy, economic development and other business-related activities. To help carry out that mission, we supported HB 1425 during the 2021 Legislative Session in hopes that it would create access to even more capital for growing businesses in Bismarck-Mandan. Fortunately, that critical piece of legislation was passed and signed into law by Governor Burgum in early April.

Since then however, there has been little activity associated with the funds made available through HB 1425 despite the fact that there are North Dakota companies who are prepared to apply for them. The changes proposed in HB 1512 would simply clarify how these funds would be applied for, awarded, etc. and thus be deployed for the benefit of businesses across Bismarck-Mandan and North Dakota.

As such, we stand in support of the technical corrections proposed in HB 1512.

Respectfully,

Brian Ritter, President

Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC