Neutral Testimony for House Bill 1525 Andrew P. Armacost President, University of North Dakota

Chair Vigesaa and Members of the House Appropriations Committee:

In my earlier testimony before this committee in favor of House Bill 1379, I shared how the two research universities play a pivotal role in creating new knowledge, inventions, and technology. This benefits the State of North Dakota with opportunities for economic diversification, for attracting faculty and students to the two universities, and for training the high-tech workforce.

Although UND was involved in neither the creation nor the advocacy of this bill, we appreciate the bill sponsors' support and their acknowledgement of the importance of research at our two research universities and the role it plays in the state. We encourage members of the House Appropriations Committee to examine how this bill contributes to our state's university research infrastructure along with other bills that support that same infrastructure.