



NORTH DAKOTA STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

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January 23, 2023

To the Honorable Craig Headland and Member Representatives of the Finance and Taxation Committee

RE: House Bill 1383; Income tax credit for qualified compensation paid to an apprentice.

Representing workers in the commercial, industrial, and residential construction industries from foundation to finish, we are committed to promoting, recruiting, and developing careers for all workers in the skilled trades in North Dakota. Construction is a rewarding career, and we are fully committed to passing this industry along to younger generations in a proper and formal education system. Utilizing an apprenticeship program is the primary means to achieve this goal for the construction industry, and as such, we are in support of HB1383.

A Registered Apprenticeship Program is a post-secondary, educational investment employers and labor collaboratively make to recruit, develop, and retain workers for the construction industry. It has been a proven model for workforce development that synchronizes hands-on training and classroom instruction. Being third-party certified by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship provides a quantifiable program recognized as the gold-standard in construction. Also, since many programs are fully funded by the private sector, there is no additional cost to the taxpayer.

Creating this tax credit for North Dakota taxpayers provides an additional tool to invest in workers to the state in a highly competitive industry. Therefore, the North Dakota State Building and Construction Trades Council is in support of HB 1383.

With Kindest Regards, I am

Jason Ehlert
North Dakota State Building and Construction Trades Council
President
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