

GREATER NORTH DAKOTA CHAMBER HB 1505 House Human Services Committee Chair Robin Weisz February 5, 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Andrea Pfennig with the Greater North Dakota Chamber. GNDC is North Dakota's largest statewide business advocacy organization, with membership represented by small and large businesses, local chambers, and trade and industry associations across the state. We stand in opposition of House Bill 1505.

HB 1505 would infringe on employers' ability to require any vaccine. This bill would apply to more than COVID vaccines. It would apply to every vaccine, including those for deadly diseases like polio, measles, and diphtheria that have largely been eradicated due to vaccines. The last few years have demonstrated that we cannot anticipate what may occur in the future. This bill is far-reaching and could hinder possible solutions to other public health emergencies that may arise. Depending on the future federal regulatory environment, this bill has the potential to make employers choose whether to break state or federal laws & regulations.

GNDC has long supported the right of employers to determine policies for their operations and workforce. Businesses know the best course of action for their functions, and it is their choice to determine the policies they enact.

We strongly urge a Do Not Pass on HB 1505.