Hello, Chairman Weisz & Members of the House Human Services Committee,

My name is Brenda Stallman and I am the Executive Officer of Traill District Health Unit in Hillsboro. I offer this written testimony in support of SB 2153.

As with any business, private or public, clearly identifying core functions is essential for maximizing effectiveness and providing understanding of an agency's capabilities.

This bill does not place additional burdens on local public health departments, as each uses these core functions while addressing individual needs identified in their community health assessments.

It is important to have these functions itemized along with the existing public health structure outlined in the ND Century Code. Doing so will maintain consistency, prioritize decision making of local public health agencies, and promote the practice of responsible resource allocation.

Of equal importance, access to a description of core functions in the Century Code provides assurance to those who grant funding to local public health agencies.

Additionally, citizens who need and depend on services provided by each local public health department can be assured of these core competencies.

Thank you for your consideration in favor of SB 2153.

Brenda Stallman

Hillsboro