

Matthew Marshall 5301 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S Grand Forks ND 58201 mmarshall@minnkota.com

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2306

Chair Longmuir and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

North Dakota benefits from strong Job Development Authorities (JDAs) that work to ensure we have sustainable and healthy growth. This growth, can lower taxes and provide resilient communities for all North Dakotans to live in. SB 2306 updates legislation to expand options for counties to leverage local Economic Development Organizations to act as the administrator of JDA dollars. This change limits the duplication of efforts and ensures the state is recognizing the different organizational structures that exist.

SB 2306 is an administrative change that makes sure the counties have the flexibility to partner with organizations on the front line of community and economic development if they choose. The option to partner still remains at the sole discretion of the county but would finally allow partnership with an economic development organization or an industrial development organization depending on what is available. Though this distinction is slight, this change will ensure the county has the ability to stretch resources further and leverage local assets if they would like.

SB 2306 expands the capacity across the state work on sustainable healthy growth. I urge a Do PASS on SB 2306.

Sincerely,

**Matthew Marshall** 

**Economic Development Administrator**