



103 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West, Suite 101 • Dickinson, ND 58601

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Dear Chairman Longmuir and Members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

Chairman Longmuir and members of the committee, my name is Ryan Jilek and I am the Executive Vice President for Stark Development Corporation (SDC) and a member of the Economic Development Association North Dakota (EDND), I want to express my support of SB 2306 regarding Job Development Authorities. SDC is the economic development office serving Dickinson and all Stark County.

SB 2306 provides another effective option under North Dakota Century Code regarding JDA's for counties to engage in economic development services. By leveraging the services of economic development organizations directly, the board of county commissioners may elect to contract with existing entities providing economic development services.

Working with many of our surrounding counties we see the challenges of maintaining active and engaged JDA boards to further their economic development investments. SB 2306 allow the county to maintain their active role in economic development but removes barriers that may arise in creating or sustaining an active JDA.

Although the proposed legislation does not affect our relationship with our Stark County JDA or other partners, we do recognize the benefits this expanded language provides to further economic development throughout the state. Anything that can be done to expand economic development efforts ultimately affects every individual in North Dakota in a positive way.

Thank you for your time, attention and consideration regarding this proposed legislation. We see this addition as a positive and for the above reasons we encourage a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2306.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ryan Jilek'.

Ryan Jilek, Executive Vice-President  
Stark Development Corporation