Butte Rural Fire Protection District PO Box 232 Butte, North Dakota 58723

January 30, 2023

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

My name is Rick Tischaefer and I have been the Fire Chief and Secretary/Treasurer for the Butte Rural Fire Protection District since 2006. Butte Rural Fire Protection District provides service to North Dakotans and their property in three counties; encompasses 285 square miles of real estate; two communities; one recreational area; and approximately 182,000 acres of mostly dedicated agricultural property with extensive farming operations, equipment, and farmsteads. The Butte Rural Fire Protection District also serves as a Mutual Aid partner to Velva, Drake, McClusky, Mercer, Turtle Lake, Max, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The men and women that serve the Butte Rural Fire Protection District are the finest volunteers in North Dakota.

Butte Rural Fire Protection District is 100% volunteer and funded in part with a district mil levy. Serving our district as Chief and Secretary/Treasurer has provided much experience on how actions by the State Fire Marshal's Office and the North Dakota Insurance Department effect our district. It is positive and profound. The information and actions included in Senate Bill 2211 will greatly increase the effectiveness of both agencies, thereby providing even greater customer service to the fire service community in North Dakota.

I am asking that you continue to support the positive actions included in Senate Bill 2211, encourage your fellow legislators to do the same, and take the necessary action to move this legislation to the Governor for signature.

Respectfully,

Rick Tischaefer

Chief and Secretary/Treasurer

Butte Rural Fire Protection District