



**CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY
CENTERS**
OF NORTH DAKOTA

Senate Judiciary Committee
Testimony In Support of Senate Bill #2202
1-18-23

Madame Chairman, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for the record, my name is Greg Kasowski, and I am the executive director of the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota. I appear today in support of Senate Bill 2202.

As many of you know, Children's Advocacy Centers provide services to children who are victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and other forms of child maltreatment. One of the core services we offer is medical exams for child victims of abuse. We partner with various medical agencies across the state to provide these services to children.

The proposed legislation would benefit Children's Advocacy Centers and the children we serve in several ways.

First, our medical partners would receive training on domestic violence forensic exams and how to document findings, which fills the gap for this service in areas of North Dakota. Second, funding would be available for community-based or hospital-based domestic violence examiner programs to conduct these exams for our Children's Advocacy Centers. Third, there would be the potential for more and better evidence collection for the potential prosecution of cases of child abuse.

I respectfully ask the committee to recommend a DO PASS to SB 2202.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,

Greg Kasowski
Executive Director

Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota

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