

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Dickinson State University's Staff Senate, I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed funding allocations for Dickinson State University (DSU), including the \$48.5 million for critical renovations, the \$375,000 for campus safety improvements, and the \$1 million for the Theodore Roosevelt Center. These investments are essential for enhancing the university's infrastructure, security, and academic excellence, benefiting both students and the broader community.

The \$48.5 million investment in May Hall, Stickney Hall, a Mental Health Area, and Stoxen Library is crucial to ensuring that DSU provides modern, accessible, and supportive learning environments. Renovating these key facilities will enhance academic engagement, improve student well-being, and ensure that DSU remains competitive in attracting and retaining students. In particular, the development of a dedicated Mental Health Area is a necessary step toward addressing the growing mental health challenges faced by college students today.

Additionally, the \$375,000 allocated for the creation of a Campus Safety Office is an essential step in ensuring the security of DSU's students, faculty, and staff. This funding will support the hiring of additional safety officers, the installation of security cameras and safety towers, and other critical safety measures. In an era where campus security is a national concern, these improvements will provide peace of mind to students and their families while fostering a safer learning environment.

Finally, the \$1 million designated for the Theodore Roosevelt Center (TRC) will strengthen DSU's relationship with the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library and further establish the university as a leader in Roosevelt scholarship. Continued investment in the TRC will not only enhance DSU's academic reputation but also create opportunities for historical research, tourism, and economic development in the region.

These funding initiatives are critical to DSU's continued growth and success. I urge the necessary stakeholders to approve these investments and support the long-term viability of Dickinson State University. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mackenzie Hicks

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