

Testimony of Jim Murphy, Executive Director, Traill County EDC in support of SB 2018

House of Representatives – Department of Commerce Appropriations

March 16, 2025

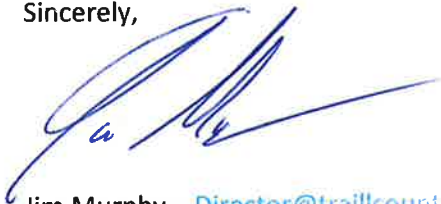
My name is Jim Murphy, Executive Director of Traill County Economic Development Commission. My role, and the role of this organization, is to help build the economic environment in the county and region to help ensure long-term growth for our communities. I am asking for your support of SB 2018 to keep the positive economic momentum

We are a small organization. We are smart, creative and quick to adjust, and we've learned to maximize the assets & resources of our organization. Like many of our peers, we work across many areas of modern economic development including business development, business recruitment and retention, childcare, housing, workforce development, community development, and education for our businesses and municipality leaders. We are also the Job Development Authority in Traill County and are currently managing about twenty loans and a revolving loan fund.

We count on our partners, like ND Commerce, to execute and support the work we do locally. For instance, the Rural Slum and Blight grant helped the city of Mayville remove some dilapidated property that can be used now for redevelopment. Other effects are not so easily evident like development at Grand Sky. The growth in population should help put people in neighboring Hatton as well as other surrounding cities as that develops. The innovation of the Office of Global Talent (formerly Legal Immigration) can help bring workers and their families to our agriculturally based economy.

It is with this long-term growth strategy and the ultimate return on investment that I am encouraging a yes vote on SB 2018.

Sincerely,



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