

Dickinson
Theodore Roosevelt
REGIONAL AIRPORT

March 5, 2025

RE: Testimony to House Appropriations Committee – Government Operations Division on SB 2006 – Aeronautics commission Budget

Chairman Monson and members of the committee,

For the record my name is Kelly Braun, and I am the Manager of the Dickinson Municipal Airport. On behalf of the Municipal Airport Authority, I respectfully offer testimony in support of **SB 2006**.

The North Dakota Aeronautics Commission (NDAC) is vitally important to our State's Airports. Their mission is to serve the public by providing economic and technical assistance for the aviation community while ensuring the safe and cost-effective advancement of aviation in North Dakota. The Commission and its staff successfully accomplish this mission every day, and the result of these efforts is a statewide system of airports that are ready to support the future of aviation, no matter what their location, across our great State.

I would like to emphasize the financial challenges faced by airports in completing essential generational infrastructure projects due to insufficient federal funding, as well as rising construction costs. Issues such as these can result in costly delays and highlight the need for significant State assistance. Simply put, completing large-scale projects such as new terminals, terminal expansions and runway reconstructions, would not happen without the financial assistance from the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission. Projects such as these are essential to the future of aviation across North Dakota.

Specifically, I would mention the much-needed construction of a commercial passenger terminal at the Dickinson Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport, which would also include the associated, taxiways, aprons, access roads and parking lots. The authority has already begun designing the new terminal and will be ready to accept bids for the project in mid-2025.

Your support for **SB 2006** will ensure the completion of these generational projects and will allow airports across the State to meet the needs of the aviation industry and the traveling public. Business and economic growth relies on commercial service airports. Local communities cannot fund the entire local share for these large generational projects alone. The North Dakota Aeronautics Commission continues to be a great financial partner with airports across the State.

The Dickinson Municipal Airport Authority respectfully requests the House Appropriations Committee to unanimously support **SB 2006**, ensuring the funding needed to complete critical airport projects and sustain North Dakota's aviation infrastructure.

Respectfully,



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