

January 20, 2025

Chair Warrey and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Kilbourne Group, I am writing to express our dedicated support for House Bill No. 1438, which would provide a matching grant to support the Fargo Theatre's Centennial Capital Campaign.

The Fargo Theatre has been a cornerstone of downtown Fargo for nearly a century, playing an integral role in the cultural and economic vibrancy of our community. Kilbourne Group has experienced this partnership firsthand, particularly through our collaboration on the 300 Broadway project. The Theatre's vision for a second screen was instrumental in shaping this development, and the resulting Theatre 2 has become a profound asset to the Fargo Theatre and the downtown environment as a whole. This collaboration highlights how historic preservation, and forward-thinking development can work hand-in-hand to benefit the entire community.

Beyond our shared projects, the Fargo Theatre is a critical component of what makes downtown Fargo a desirable place to live, work, and play. Its programming and iconic presence contribute to the vitality of the district, supporting businesses, attracting residents, and fostering a sense of community that aligns with Kilbourne Group's mission to create spaces where people feel connected and inspired.

House Bill No. 1438 represents a unique opportunity to invest in this historic landmark while leveraging private support to maximize impact. As a business that has benefited from the Theatre's role in revitalizing downtown Fargo, we encourage your support of this important legislation.

Thank you for considering this investment in one of North Dakota's most cherished cultural assets.

Sincerely,

Mike Allmendinger
President



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