



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

House Judiciary Committee
Testimony In Support of Senate Bill #2209
3-5-25

Mr. Chairman, members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Greg Kasowski, executive director of the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota. I appear today in support of Senate Bill 2209.

Children's Advocacy Centers provide critical services to families affected by child sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and other forms of child maltreatment. Our core services include forensic interviews, mental health therapy, victim advocacy, and case coordination with our multidisciplinary team partners. For medical exams, we partner with several hospital-based and community-based medical agencies across the state to offer this critical service to children and families.

SB 2209 benefits victims of child abuse and their families. It will:

1. Improve the consistency and quality of evidence for child physical abuse cases.
2. Address service gaps by expanding access for families to forensic medical exams for child physical abuse.
3. Uphold our community's shared value that victims of physical abuse should not have to pay for their own forensic medical exams.

I respectfully ask the committee to recommend a DO PASS to SB 2209, and I will stand for any questions.

Sincerely,
Greg Kasowski
Executive Director

Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota

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