House Bill 1455 February 7, 2025 Testimony in Favor Jamie S. Azure, Chairman

I am Jamie Azure, Chairman of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and I submit this testimony in favor of House Bill 1455. When measures affect Tribes, either favorably or adversely a seat at the table allows for our perspectives to be heard. The Turtle Mountains have a large population and State Bills widely affect our community and membership.

This Bill is a start to continuing our congenial relationships with the State of North Dakota and its agencies. As a general, rule we govern ourselves and our community but often State action can change the way we interact with agencies. In order to continue productive relationships, it is in the State's and the Tribes' best interest to move forward in a cooperative way. This bill accomplishes this goal.

We appreciate your consideration of our perspectives.