



Letter of Support HB 1119

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Chair Wobbema and members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee,

For the record, my name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our over 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of House Bill 1119.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. We commend the 68th Legislative Assembly for their critical investments to address the need for accessible, affordable, and quality childcare throughout our state. Childcare is central to the state's workforce challenges, and to adequately address workforce shortages, the state must also address childcare.

In this evolving economy, it is critical to continuously evaluate programs, policies, and data to better understand the childcare industry. This study will analyze state laws, administrative rules, licensure, and policies relating to early childhood services and childcare, providing vital information needed to address challenges and enhance opportunities across the state.

The passage of this bill demonstrates the state's commitment to childcare and offers additional information needed to create strategies and initiatives that will support providers and working families. We respectfully ask the 69th Legislative Assembly to support this study and urge this committee to give House Bill 1119 a DO PASS recommendation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your commitment to North Dakota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cale Dunwoody", written in a cursive style.

Cale Dunwoody
Vice President of Public Policy
Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce