

2023 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2240

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
1/23/2023

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

10:00 AM Chairman Bekkedahl opened the hearing on SB 2240.

Members present: Senators Bekkedahl, Krebsbach, Burckhard, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Erbele, Kreun, Meyer, Roers, Schaible, Sorvaag, Vedaa, Wanzek, Rust, and Mathern.

Discussion Topics:

- Base retention grant programs
- National security
- Ground Based Strategic Deterrent Sentinel Missile System
- Economic impact
- Affected communities
- Status of base retention
- United front
- Grand Forks Air Force Base
- Fargo Air National Guard Base

10:00 AM Senator Randy Burckhard, appeared and introduced the bill, testified in favor, testimony # 15390

10:14 AM Major General Allen Dormann, Adjutant General of the North Dakota National Guard, testified in support, no written testimony

10:27 AM Brekka Kramer, Minot Area Chamber EDC, testified in support, testimony #15092 and #15094

10:41 AM Tom Ford, Grand Forks County Commissioner, testified in support, testimony #14921

10:54 AM Katherine Grindberg, Executive Vice President of the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce, testified in favor, testimony # 15162

10:57 AM Josh Teigen, Commissioner of Commerce, testified in support, testimony # 15496

11:05 AM Amanda Remyense, Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce, testified in support, no written testimony

11:06 AM Chairman Bekkedahl closed the public hearing.

11:07 AM Senator Meyer moved DO PASS
Senator Burckhard seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Curt Kreun	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Jim P. Roers	Y
Senator David S. Rust	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion passes 16 yes – 0 no – 0 absent

Senator Burckhard will carry SB# 2240

Additional written testimony:

- Keith Lund, President and CEO of the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation, testimony # 14954
- Brandon Bochenski, Grand Forks Mayor, testimony #14965
- Kevin Black, Board Chair Minot Area Chamber EDC, testimony #15088
- Mark Jantzer, Task Force 21 Chair, Minot Area Chamber EDC, testimony #15090
- Tom Ross, Minot Mayor, testimony #15200
- Teran Doerr, Executive Director of Bowman County Development Corporation and President of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota, testimony #15203
- Gracie Lian, Base Retention and Investment Committee Coordinator, testimony #15287
- Steve Blazek, Co-chair Fargo National Guard Support Group, testimony #15317
- Shawn Dobberstein, Co-chair Fargo National Guard Support Group, testimony #15317

11:11 AM Chairman Bekkedahl adjourned the hearing.

Kathleen Hall, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2240: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2240 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This bill affects workforce development.

2023 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2240

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
3/13/2023

To provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

9:00 AM Chairman Vigesaa Called the meeting to order and roll call was taken-

Members present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative Kempenich, Representative B. Anderson, Representative Brandenburg, Representative Hanson, Representative Kreidt, Representative Martinson, Representative Mitskog, Representative Meier, Representative Mock, Representative Monson, Representative Nathe, Representative J. Nelson, Representative O'Brien, Representative Richter, Representative Sanford, Representative Schatz, Representative Schobinger, Representative Strinden, Representative G. Stemen and Representative Swiontek.

Members not Present- Representative Bellew and Representative Pyle

Discussion Topics:

- Minutemen Missile
- Retention Program
- Need for Man Camps
- Military Base Realignment

Senator Burckhard, District 5 Minot - Explains the bill. (Testimony #24171)

Senator Scott Meyer- Minot- Oral testimony in favor of SB 2240

Brekka Kramer Minot Area Chamber- President- Testifies in favor of SB 2240 (Testimony #23915 & #23914)

Andrea Pfenning- Greater ND Chamber of Government Affairs- Gives verbal testimony in favor of SB 2240

Dana Hager- EDND- Testifies in favor of SN 2240 (Testimony #24021)

Shannon Full- FMWF Chamber of Commerce President- Testifies online in favor of SN 2240 (Testimony #24035)

Thomas Ford Grand Forks County Administrator- Testifies online in favor of SB 2240. (Testimony #24025)

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Additional written testimony: Tom Ross- City of Minot- Mayor #24091, **Josh Teigen-** ND Department of Commerce President -CEO #24028, **Brandon Bochenski-** City of Grand Forks- Mayor #23728, **Keith Lund-** Grand Forks Regional Economic Development Corporation #23766, **Kevin Black-** Minot Area Chamber- #23913, **Mark Jantzer-** Task Force 21 #23920,

10:02 AM Chairman Vigesaa Closed the hearing for SB 2240

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
4/6/2023

To provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

9:17 AM Chairman Vigesaa Called the meeting to order and roll call was taken-

Members present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative B. Anderson, Representative Bellew, Representative Hanson, Representative Kreidt, Representative Martinson, Representative Mitskog, Representative Meier, Representative Mock, Representative Monson, Representative Nathe, Representative J. Nelson, Representative O'Brien, Representative Pyle, Representative Richter, Representative Sanford, Representative Schatz, Representative Schobinger, Representative Strinden, Representative G. Stemen and Representative Swiontek.

Members not Present- Representative Kempenich and Representative Brandenburg

Discussion Topics:

- Amendment
- Committee Action

Chairman Vigesaa Opens discussion and passes out amendment 23.0884.01001 (Testimony #27326)

Representative J. Nelson Moves to amend with verbal amendment changing line 10 to 500 thousand.

Representative Monson Seconds the motion.

Representative Martinson Moves a substitute motion to grant Minot 400 thousand and 200 thousand to Fargo and Grand Forks

Representative Swiontek – Seconds the motion.

Committee Discussion Roll call vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	AB
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Larry Bellew	N
Representative Mike Brandenburg	AB
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y

Representative Gary Kreidt	N
Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative Corey Mock	Y
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	N
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	Y
Representative Mike Schatz	N
Representative Randy A. Schobinger	N
Representative Greg Stemen	Y
Representative Michelle Strinden	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	Y

Motion Carries 16-5-2**Representative O'Brien-** Move for a Do Pass as Amended**Representative Pyle-** Seconds the Motion**Committee Discussion Roll call vote**

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	AB
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Larry Bellew	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	AB
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Gary Kreidt	N
Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative Corey Mock	Y
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	N
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	N
Representative Mark Sanford	Y
Representative Mike Schatz	Y
Representative Randy A. Schobinger	Y
Representative Greg Stemen	Y

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Representative Michelle Strinden	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	Y

Motion Carries 18-3-2 Representative Bellew will carry the bill.

Additional written testimony: Jeff Stark- Business Manager/Secretary Treasure
International Union of Painters & Allied Trade District Council 82 #27325

9:52 AM Chairman Vigesaa Closed the meeting for SB 2240

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

AG
 4-6-23
 (1-1)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2240

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$1,900,000" with "\$800,000"

Page 1, line 10, replace "\$900,000" with "\$400,000"

Page 1, line 11, replace "\$1,000,000" with "\$400,000"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2240 - Department of Commerce - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
Base retention grants		\$1,900,000	(\$1,100,000)	\$800,000
Total all funds	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$1,100,000)	\$800,000
Less estimated income	0	0	0	0
General fund	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$1,100,000)	\$800,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Department 601 - Department of Commerce - Detail of House Changes

	Adjusts Grant Funding ¹	Total House Changes
Base retention grants	(\$1,100,000)	(\$1,100,000)
Total all funds	(\$1,100,000)	(\$1,100,000)
Less estimated income	0	0
General fund	(\$1,100,000)	(\$1,100,000)
FTE	0.00	0.00

¹ Funding for base retention grants is reduced by \$1,100,000, from \$1,900,000 to \$800,000 from the general fund.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2240: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (18 YEAS, 3 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2240 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$1,900,000" with "\$800,000"

Page 1, line 10, replace "\$900,000" with "\$400,000"

Page 1, line 11, replace "\$1,000,000" with "\$400,000"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2240 - Department of Commerce - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
Base retention grants		\$1,900,000	(\$1,100,000)	\$800,000
Total all funds	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$1,100,000)	\$800,000
Less estimated income	0	0	0	0
General fund	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$1,100,000)	\$800,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Department 601 - Department of Commerce - Detail of House Changes

	Adjusts Grant Funding ¹	Total House Changes
Base retention grants	(\$1,100,000)	(\$1,100,000)
Total all funds	(\$1,100,000)	(\$1,100,000)
Less estimated income	0	0
General fund	(\$1,100,000)	(\$1,100,000)
FTE	0.00	0.00

¹ Funding for base retention grants is reduced by \$1,100,000, from \$1,900,000 to \$800,000 from the general fund.

2023 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2240

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
4/18/2023
Conference committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

8:33 AM Chairman Burckhard opened the conference committee meeting on SB 2240.

Members present: Senators Burckhard, Meyer, and J Roers.
Representatives Nelson, Anderson, and Mitskog.

Discussion Topics:

- Base retention grant programs
- National security
- Affected communities
- Status of base retention
- United front
- Conference committee discussion

8:34 AM Chairman Senator Randy Burckhard, introduced the bill, testified in favor, testimony # 27679.

8:40 AM Representative Nelson explained the House amendments and their position, no written testimony.

8:55 AM Representative Nelson moved to adopt an amendment to fund \$800,000 to Minot, and \$0 to Grand Forks and Fargo, no written testimony.
Motion FAILED for lack of a second.

8:58 AM Chairman Burckhard adjourned the meeting.

Kathleen Hall, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
4/19/2023
Conference committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

11:03 AM Chairman Burckhard opened the conference committee meeting on SB 2240.

Members present: Senators Burckhard, Meyer, and J Roers.

Members absent: Representatives Nelson, Anderson, and Mitskog.

Discussion Topics:

- Base retention grant programs
- National security
- Conference committee discussion

11:03 AM Chairman Senator Randy Burckhard explained the House members would not be in attendance, as they are still in full committee.

11:05 AM Chairman Burckhard adjourned the meeting.

Kathleen Hall, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
4/20/2023
Conference committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

8:31 AM Chairman Burckhard opened the conference committee meeting on SB 2240. Members present: Senators Burckhard, Meyer, and J Roers; Representatives Nelson, Anderson, and Mitskog.

Discussion Topics:

- Base retention funding
- National security
- Sentinel project
- Conference committee decision

8:31 AM Senator Burckhard began committee discussion.

8:32 AM Representative Nelson proposed an alternative funding of local and state matching.

8:51 AM Senator Roers moved to have the House recede from their amendments and restore the Senate bill. Senator Meyer seconded the motion.
Motion failed 3-3-0.

8:52 AM Representative Anderson moved to amend for \$400,000 for Minot, \$200,00 for Grand Forks, and \$200,000 for Fargo. Representative Mitskog seconded the motion.
Motion failed 3-3-0.

8:53 AM Senator Meyer moved to amend for \$700,000 for Minot and \$350,000 for each Grand Forks and Fargo. Senator Roers seconded the motion.
Motion failed 3-3-0.

8:54 AM Representative Nelson moved to amend with a maximum \$1 million, with a 1 to 1 match for locals, \$500,000 for the Minot Sentinel project, and \$500,000 for Grand Forks and Fargo to split. Representative Mitskog seconded the motion.
Motion failed 3-3-0.

9:00 AM Chairman Burckhard adjourned the meeting.

Kathleen Hall, Committee Clerk

**2023 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2240

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Action Taken** **SENATE accede to House Amendments**
 SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 HOUSE recede from House amendments
 HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
- Unable to agree**, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Senator Roers Seconded by: Senator Meyer

Senators					Representatives				
			Yes	No				Yes	No
Senator Burckhard			Y		Representative Nelson				N
Senator Meyer			Y		Representative Anderson				N
Senator Roers			Y		Representative Mitskog				N
Total Senate Vote			3	0	Total Rep. Vote			0	3

Vote Count Yes: 3 No: 3 Absent: 0 **FAILED**

Senate Carrier _____ House Carrier _____

LC Number _____ . _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ . _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment:
 House recedes from their amendments and restore the Senate bill.

**2023 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2240

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Action Taken** **SENATE accede to House Amendments**
 SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 HOUSE recede from House amendments
 HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
- Unable to agree**, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Senator Meyer Seconded by: Senator Roers

Senators					Representatives				
			Yes	No				Yes	No
Senator Burckhard			Y		Representative Nelson				N
Senator Meyer			Y		Representative Anderson				N
Senator Roers			Y		Representative Mitskog				N
Total Senate Vote			3	0	Total Rep. Vote			0	3

Vote Count Yes: 3 No: 3 Absent: 0 **FAILED**

Senate Carrier _____ House Carrier _____

LC Number _____ . _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ . _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment:
 Amend for \$700,000 for Minot and \$350,000 for each Grand Forks and Fargo.

**2023 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2240

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Action Taken** **SENATE accede to House Amendments**
 SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 HOUSE recede from House amendments
 HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
- Unable to agree**, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Representative Nelson Seconded by: Representative Mitskog

Senators					Representatives				
			Yes	No				Yes	No
Senator Burckhard				N	Representative Nelson			Y	
Senator Meyer				N	Representative Anderson			Y	
Senator Roers				N	Representative Mitskog			Y	
Total Senate Vote			0	3	Total Rep. Vote			3	0

Vote Count Yes: 3 No: 3 Absent: 0 **FAILED**

Senate Carrier _____ House Carrier _____

LC Number _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment:

Amend with a maximum \$1 million, with a 1 to 1 match for locals, \$500,000 for the Minot Sentinel project, and \$500,000 for Grand Forks and Fargo to split.

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2240
4/21/2023
Conference committee

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

10:01 AM Chairman Burckhard opened the conference committee meeting on SB 2240.

Members present: Senators Burckhard, Meyer, and J Roers.
Representatives Nelson, Anderson, and Mitskog.

Discussion Topics:

- Base retention grant programs
- National security
- Fiscal impact
- Sentinel project
- Conference committee discussion

10:01 AM Chairman Senator Randy Burckhard, reviewed where the bill and the conference committee were at this time, no written testimony.

10:03 AM Representative Nelson proposed a pool concept, with match, with an annual report.

10:09 AM Senator Meyer moved that the House recede from their amendment and that the new amendment be for a maximum of \$1 million, \$500,000 for Minot, \$250,000 for Grand Forks, \$250,000 for Fargo, amendment will be LC 23.0884.01004.
Senator Roers seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4-2-0.

Senator Meyer will carry the bill to the Senate.

Senator Nelson will carry the bill to the House.

10:11 AM Chairman Burckhard adjourned the meeting.

Kathleen Hall, Committee Clerk

CS
 4126
 1 of 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2240

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on page 1535 of the Senate Journal and pages 1748 and 1749 of the House Journal and that Senate Bill No. 2240 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$1,900,000" with "\$1,000,000"

Page 1, line 10, replace "\$900,000" with "\$500,000"

Page 1, line 11, replace "\$1,000,000" with "\$500,000"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2240 - Department of Commerce - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
Base retention grants		\$1,900,000	(\$900,000)	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000
Total all funds	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$900,000)	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000
Less estimated income	0	0	0	0	0	0
General fund	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$900,000)	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Department 601 - Department of Commerce - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Adjusts Grant Funding ¹	Total Conference Committee Changes
Base retention grants	(\$900,000)	(\$900,000)
Total all funds	(\$900,000)	(\$900,000)
Less estimated income	0	0
General fund	(\$900,000)	(\$900,000)
FTE	0.00	0.00

¹ Funding for base retention grants is reduced by \$900,000 to provide a total of \$1 million from the general fund to be provided to eligible organizations in Minot (\$500,000), Fargo (\$250,000), and Grand Forks (\$250,000). The Senate provided \$1.9 million from the general fund, of which \$900,000 was for Minot, \$500,000 was for Fargo, and \$500,000 was for Grand Forks. The House provided \$800,000 from the general fund, of which \$400,000 was for Minot, \$200,000 for Fargo, and \$200,000 for Grand Forks.

**2023 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2240

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Action Taken** **SENATE accede to House Amendments**
 SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 HOUSE recede from House amendments
 HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
 Unable to agree, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Senator Meyer Seconded by: Senator Roers

Senators					Representatives				
			Yes	No				Yes	No
Senator Burckhard				N	Representative Nelson				N
Senator Meyer			Y		Representative Anderson			Y	
Senator Roers			Y		Representative Mitskog			Y	
Total Senate Vote			2	1	Total Rep. Vote			2	1

Vote Count Yes: 4 No: 2 Absent: 0

Senate Carrier Meyer House Carrier Nelson

LC Number 23.0884 . 01004 of amendment

LC Number 23.0884 . 04000 of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment

Insert LC: 23.0884.01004
 Senate Carrier: Meyer
 House Carrier: Nelson

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2240: Your conference committee (Sens. Burckhard, Meyer, J. Roers and Reps. Nelson, B. Anderson, Mitskog) recommends that the **HOUSE RECEDE** from the House amendments as printed on SJ page 1535, adopt amendments as follows, and place SB 2240 on the Seventh order:

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on page 1535 of the Senate Journal and pages 1748 and 1749 of the House Journal and that Senate Bill No. 2240 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$1,900,000" with "\$1,000,000"

Page 1, line 10, replace "\$900,000" with "\$500,000"

Page 1, line 11, replace "\$1,000,000" with "\$500,000"

ReNUMBER accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2240 - Department of Commerce - Conference Committee Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	House Version	Comparison to House
Base retention grants		\$1,900,000	(\$900,000)	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000
Total all funds	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$900,000)	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000
Less estimated income	0	0	0	0	0	0
General fund	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$900,000)	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Department 601 - Department of Commerce - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Adjusts Grant Funding ¹	Total Conference Committee Changes
Base retention grants	(\$900,000)	(\$900,000)
Total all funds	(\$900,000)	(\$900,000)
Less estimated income	0	0
General fund	(\$900,000)	(\$900,000)
FTE	0.00	0.00

¹ Funding for base retention grants is reduced by \$900,000 to provide a total of \$1 million from the general fund to be provided to eligible organizations in Minot (\$500,000), Fargo (\$250,000), and Grand Forks (\$250,000). The Senate provided \$1.9 million from the general fund, of which \$900,000 was for Minot, \$500,000 was for Fargo, and \$500,000 was for Grand Forks. The House provided \$800,000 from the general fund, of which \$400,000 was for Minot, \$200,000 for Fargo, and \$200,000 for Grand Forks.

SB 2240 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

SB 2240



Board of Commissioners

Bob Rost
Grand Forks, ND

Dave Engen
Northwood, ND

Cynthia Pic
Niagara, ND

Kimberly Hagen
Grand Forks, ND

Mark Rustad
Grand Forks, ND

Tom Ford
Grand Forks County
PO Box 5726
Grand Forks, ND 58206-5726

RE: SB 2240 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

Dear Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

My name is Tom Ford, and I am the Grand Forks County Director of Administration. Thank you for inviting me to be here today on behalf of the Grand Forks community. I am grateful for the opportunity to tell you about what we have been doing and the positive results achieved in growing military, interagency, and commercial missions at Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB).

Grand Forks enjoys an enviable relationship with the Air Force, and particularly with the service members and their families at GFAFB. The partnerships we have forged have positioned GFAFB as a model for the “Base of the Future” not only for the Air Force, but also for other military services such as the ND National Guard, Space Development Agency, and Test Resource Management Center.

Grand Forks has received numerous national awards recognizing its support of GFAFB, and the ND National Guard such as the Abilene Trophy and the Great American Defense Community award, chosen from a field of over 150 military communities nation-wide. Grand Forks continues to be recognized by senior military leaders and other military communities as the model to emulate.

We have worked diligently with the 319th Reconnaissance Wing at Grand Forks AFB to improve quality of life for airmen and their families. The Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease provides GFAFB with flexible funding to be spent on any number of improvements that could not otherwise be accomplished if relied on annually appropriated funding.



Board of Commissioners

Bob Rost
Grand Forks, ND

Dave Engen
Northwood, ND

Cynthia Pic
Niagara, ND

Kimberly Hagen
Grand Forks, ND

Mark Rustad
Grand Forks, ND

Grand Forks is committed to improving its quality of life based on the Air Force's 2021 Support of Military Families report. While GFAFB ranked in the top third of installation communities, quality of life remains a priority as mission and basing realignment decisions factor in these criteria. The Grand Forks community continues to strategically meet with Air Force leadership to assess local quality of life, military support, and economic development goals.

In 2021 it was announced that GFAFB would be the Air Force's center of excellence for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) with future ISR missions to be housed at GFAFB. Funding has yet to be allocated, however, and priorities and initiatives can change quickly in the military. Grand Forks finds it imperative to increase national awareness that GFAFB, Grand Sky, UND, and Grand Forks community partners are international leaders in military technology and UAS development. Grand Sky, which has garnered \$65 million in capital investment, is the nation's first commercial UAS and aviation business park located on leased GFAFB land. The Space Development Agency (SDA) announced, and has begun outfitting space, on GFAFB for its first-ever ground operations and integration center. From GFAFB, the SDA will operate and control multiple-layer satellite operations for Tranche 1 (T1) of the National Defense Space Architecture.

Another Department of Defense Agency, the Test Resource Management Center (TRMC), is setting up operations on Grand Sky. Here, TRMC will convert Global Hawk aircraft to aid in hypersonic missile testing. The Range Hawk program will utilize 24 Global Hawk aircraft to conduct hypersonic weapons testing, and other future weapons development globally from Grand Sky and GFAFB.

This success and progress could not have been possible without the total dedication of the community, the relentless support of our CODELL, the Governor and of course, all of you. Moreover, we are focused on creating synergies and opportunities for all North Dakota military installations including the Fargo Air National Guard and Minot AFB. The Fargo Guard has capabilities that can augment the active-duty missions at Grand Forks and guardsmen are already being deployed to support security forces at Minot AFB. The Air Force is increasingly relying on National Guard and Reserves to augment end strength and optimize the "Total Force". The ability of the Fargo Guard to support additional UAS missions and possible tanker or bomber



Board of Commissioners

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Grand Forks, ND

Dave Engen
Northwood, ND

Cynthia Pic
Niagara, ND

Kimberly Hagen
Grand Forks, ND

Mark Rustad
Grand Forks, ND

missions in the future is critical when Air Force decision makers look at where to bed down these missions.

In fiscal year (FY) 2021 military organizations employed 14,092 people and created about 3,843 indirect jobs in North Dakota. Annual payroll for military employees is approximately \$767.1 million and indirect salaries are approximately \$202.8 million. The military also has direct expenses for construction, services, materials, equipment, and supplies of \$188.2 million. Total military economic impact in North Dakota for FY 2021 was estimated at \$1.16 billion (*Figures are from the North Dakota Military FY21 Economic Impact Analysis report prepared by NDNG*).

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve and has supported the communities of Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo in past legislative sessions. The mission has always been and will continue to be to maintain our military excellence and increase our competitive advantage for the North Dakota National Guard while maintaining missions for Minot AFB and Grand Forks AFB.

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo have raised local private and public funds and continue to support military efforts in each community. However, after two sessions without funding and additional challenges facing each community, there is a need to restore community military funding with enhanced investments to prepare North Dakota for modernization of ND's military installations and to further ensure the strategic and adaptive competitiveness of military bases in North Dakota.



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Grand Forks, ND

The communities of Minot, Fargo, and Grand Forks are committed to working diligently together and alongside the State of ND to ensure that we continue diversifying our state's economy through economic diversification projects such as Grand Sky and the Sentinel Program, and by recruiting and supporting our citizen soldiers and active-duty service members.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Grand Forks Community.

Respectfully,

Tom Ford
Director of Administration



**Testimony of Mr. Keith Lund
Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation President & CEO**

**Senate Bill 2240
Senate Appropriations Committee
Bismarck, North Dakota – January 23, 2023**

Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice Chair Krebsbach and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is Keith Lund, and I am President & CEO of the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation (EDC). I am providing written testimony in support of SB 2240.

The Grand Forks Region EDC is a proud member of the Base Retention and Investment Committee (BRIC) in Grand Forks, whose mission is to promote the retention and expansion of missions at the Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB) and Grand Sky. According to a recent report published by the North Dakota National Guard, the missions at the military installations at Grand Forks, Minot and Fargo contribute over \$1 billion to North Dakota's economy. However, these missions and this impact are not guaranteed. It takes diligent education, advocacy and intentional partnership to maintain and increase federal investment in these installations.

Through these efforts, leaders in Grand Forks have worked to position GFAFB as the "Base of the Future", with Air Force and Space Development Agency missions. In addition to the exciting missions on base, the Test Resource Management Center recently announced a significant mission to be housed at Grand Sky.

While we are pleased with the current missions at GFAFB and Grand Sky, we also recognized that priorities can change quickly in the Department of Defense (DOD). Grand Forks

finds it essential to increase awareness of our strategic location and capabilities within the Pentagon, Air Combat Command and other DOD partner agencies to insure we maintain and grow these missions.

The communities of Grand Forks, Minot and Fargo have raised both private and public funds and continue to support military efforts in each community. We are fortunate to have received support from the North Dakota Legislature in previous biennia to leverage these funds. However, after two sessions without this important funding and a rapidly increasing evolution of investment priorities within the DOD, there is a growing need to restore community military funding to enhance our collective efforts to advocate for the modernization of our military installations and to further ensure the current economic contribution to North Dakota continues.

Thank you, Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice Chair Krebsbach, and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee for your service to the State of North Dakota and for the opportunity to provide this written testimony.

255 N. 4th St.
PO Box 5200
Grand Forks, ND 58206-5200



City of Grand Forks
(701) 746-4636

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2240
Appropriations Committee
January 23, 2023

Brandon Bochenski, Mayor
Grand Forks, ND

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on this important matter. Over the past couple of years I have had the honor of serving as an honorary wing commander under the leadership of Colonel Timothy Curry of the 319th Reconnaissance Wing. I am testifying in SUPPORT of SB 2240 which would provide base retention and enhancement funding to Minot, Fargo, and Grand Forks.

As long as the Grand Forks Air Force Base has been in existence, it has been a vital part of our community, State of North Dakota, and United States of America. We have fought hard add further strategic community value to the Grand Forks Air Force Base and have found success attracting multiple ancillary and support entities in both the public and private sectors.

The state funds within this bill will help augment local efforts and funding in the following ways in Grand Forks and the Grand Forks Air Force Base:

- **Advocacy and Awareness** of the GFafb, Grand Sky, and Grand Forks community collaborative strengths through strategic meetings with US Air Force leadership to include at the Pentagon and Air Combat Command.
- **Quality of Life** planning and investments for service members and their families to include support of K-12 education, student services, higher education programming and research, medical care and behavioral/mental health, and educational and recreational opportunities.
- **Strategic Advising** to raise the national awareness and align the community with current and future GFafb strategic initiatives to include Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) mission sets, Space Development Agency (SDA), and Test Resource Management Center (TRMC).

Thank you for your time as I request a Do Pass on SB 2240.

Respectfully,
Brandon Bochenski
Mayor of Grand Forks



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minot@minotchamberedc.com

January 23, 2023
Support Testimony for Senate Bill 2240

Senator Bekkedahl and members of the North Dakota Senate Appropriations Committee:

The Minot Area Chamber EDC's vision is to be 'the go-to organization for our business community to drive key initiatives that build and strengthen our economy'. As an organization the Chamber EDC has rolled out a 5-year strategic plan with one of its five key pillars being support for military. We recognize the significant impact military has on our state with an economic impact of \$1.16 billion and locally with Minot Air Force Base's FY21 annual economic impact of \$607 million.

Minot Area Chamber EDC will continue efforts to secure funding from the City of Minot, Minot Area Chamber EDC member-investors, and raise funds privately for support of military. Local funds will be used to support military appreciation events, the Adopt-An-Airman program, Military Affairs Committee, Honorary Commanders program, Right Start program, and more. State funds would be used for strategic advocacy and awareness, along with preparing the state for Sentinel. After two sessions without funding there is a critical need to restore community military funding through the Department of Commerce Base Retention Grant Program.

The U.S. Air Force is replacing its aging Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with the Sentinel ICBM. The Sentinel ICBM represents the modernization of the land-based leg of the U.S. nuclear triad. Nuclear deterrence is the #1 priority mission of the Department of Defense. Sentinel will replace 400 Minuteman III ICBMs currently in service for more than 50 years at F.E. Warren Air Force Base (Wyoming), Malmstrom Air Force Base (Montana) and Minot Air Force Base (North Dakota). Minot is the last to receive the new weapon system.

Existing launch facilities, missile alert facilities, communication systems, infrastructure, and technologies will be modernized and replaced as necessary to support the new Sentinel weapon system. The Minuteman III ICBMs will be decommissioned. With Minot being last to receive the new system Minot it is critical that we stay diligent in our efforts to ensure the program is fully funded and realized.

It also is important to plan for the workforce needs a project of this scale brings. Planning the workforce component needs to start today to ensure our state is ready for what lies ahead.

We respectfully ask for your support of SB 2240.

Kevin Black
Minot Area Chamber EDC 2023 Board Chair
kevin.black@creedence-energy.com



Task Force 21 Members

Mark J. Jantzer
TF21 chair

Mayor Tom Ross
City of Minot

Brekka Kramer
Minot Area Chamber EDC
President | CEO

Kevin Black
Minot Area Chamber EDC
Board Chair

Sen. Randy Burckhard

Bruce I. Christianson

Randy Hauck

Peter Hankla

Jessica Klein

Jonn Knecht

Jason Zimmerman

January 23, 2023

Senator Bekkedahl and members of Senate Appropriations In Favor Testimony for SENATE BILL NO. 2240

Task Force 21-Minot (TF-21) is an activity of the Minot Area Chamber EDC that educates the local community, North Dakota officials, members of Congress and the public on national security issues, particularly ones that affect Minot Air Force Base, the U.S. Air Force, and our nuclear deterrent.

TF21 members have a sincere interest in working to fulfill the mission of the task force with a commitment to serve. Outside of the position held by the Minot Area Chamber EDC President | CEO, all TF21 members are key community leaders who volunteer and give their time for this critical effort that supports nuclear deterrence and missions at Minot Air Force Base. A focus has been on building a consensus to devote sufficient resources to sustaining and modernizing all three legs of the nuclear triad (land, sea and air).

Minot Air Force Base provides an annual economic impact of \$607 million (FY21). TF21 works consistently and diligently to ensure Minot does not end up on a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list, Minot Air Force Base continues the current missions, and the Department of Defense completes planned modernization projects.

Minot has raised funds privately and the City of Minot has provided funding to support the work of Task Force 21 but with two sessions without funding and additional efforts needed to prepare the State of North Dakota for the largest Department of Defense modernization project with Sentinel there is a gap and state support is needed. Department of Commerce – Base Retention Grant Program funds would be used for:

Advocacy and Awareness

- Strategic meetings with Washington DC leadership and U.S. Air Force Global Strike Command
- Host Nuclear Triad Annual Symposium in Washington DC to educate industry, elected officials and military on nuclear deterrence and the importance of all three legs of the nuclear triad
- Bring to North Dakota a Nuclear Triad Symposium with the objectives outlined above
- Bomber Constituency Group support of the modernization and nuclear mission of the B52 and the U.S. Air Force's Long-Range Standoff Weapon (LRSO) program
- Strategic partnerships with key military associations and organizations
- Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and MAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives

Sentinel Preparation

- Workforce hub research and planning
- Build business resource hub for North Dakota
- Coalition development and strategic partnerships with F.E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne WY and Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls MT to prepare our state for the largest Department of Defense modernization project
- Stand up the Sentinel Constituency Group to support the Air Force's program to modernize the ICBM

We ask for your support of Senate Bill No. 2240.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Jantzer
Task Force 21 Chair

Senate Appropriations
Chairman – Senator Brad Bekkedahl
January 23, 2023

Testimony of:

Brekka Kramer

President | CEO Minot Area Chamber EDC

Governor Burgum's Task Force for Military Issues in North Dakota (TF MIND) Executive Committee Member

brekka@minotareachamberedc.com

(701) 720-5798

Good morning, Chairman Bekkedahl, members of the appropriations committee, I am Brekka Kramer, President | CEO of the Minot Area Chamber EDC. I am here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 2240.

I am joined by leadership from Grand Forks and Fargo in a united front to support military throughout North Dakota. What brought our communities together is Governor Burgum's Task Force for Military Issues in North Dakota (TF MIND). TF MIND is a Governor's appointed task force chaired by the Lt. Governor. The original task force that stood up in January 2019 included members from around North Dakota with a focus on Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo, communities with the largest military footprint. It has expanded to include additional state departments and communities. TF MIND meets to discuss issues that impact military members and their families. I want to thank you Governor Burgum for bringing our communities together.

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo each lead efforts to support military and while this looks a little different in each of our respective communities, the efforts are critical as the total military economic impact in North Dakota for FY 2021 was estimated at \$1.16 billion.

Our communities routinely raise funds privately. Each supports military efforts. In the past decade the funds were leveraged with public dollars. However, that changed during the 2019 session and we have all gone without that public funding.

Now our communities have additional challenges that each face to continue to support our military today while preparing for big changes, and opportunities, that are around the corner.

With the bill in front of you, we seek merely to restore public community military funding to previous levels of \$500,000 each to all three communities, and then further enhance funding in the community of Minot over that traditional amount by another \$400,000 to prepare our great state for the Sentinel modernization project.

The military support program has been in the past, and we propose today, an appropriation to the Department of Commerce Base Retention Grant Program for communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo. The funds appropriated by the legislature are for maintaining the missions and attracting new military missions at Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base, and to support the North Dakota National Guard in Fargo. To sum up the math, the total proposed funds of \$1.9 million would be allocated as \$900,000 to Minot and \$500,000 each to Grand Forks and Fargo.

At this time, I'll share more about Minot Air Force Base and what lies ahead and then will look to Grand Forks and Fargo to share their unique challenges.

Minot Air Force Base for FY21 had an economic impact of \$607 million. Minot isn't Minot without our Base. Minot Air Force Base is the only dual-wing nuclear capable base in the nation hosting two legs of the nuclear

triad. The three legs of the U.S. nuclear triad serve as the backbone of America's national security. The triad, along with assigned forces provide 24/7 deterrence to prevent catastrophic actions from our adversaries. The triad stands ready, if necessary, to deliver a decisive response, anywhere, anytime. The triad includes land, sea and air. Minot Air Force Base has both the land and air deterrence. The 5th Bomb Wing operates 26 B-52 aircraft, and the 91st Missile Wing operates 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) sites. Major modernization projects are underway for the bombers, missiles and the weapons system.

The mega Department of Defense project Minot is working to prepare North Dakota for is the U.S. Air Force's Sentinel ICBM weapon system, formerly known as Ground Based Strategic Deterrence (GBSD), a critical modernization of the ground-based leg of the U.S. nuclear triad, the bedrock of national security.

The Sentinel system replaces the aging ICBM system, which has been in service for over 50 years. No modernization project has ever been fully executed and Minot Air Force Base is third behind F.E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, WY and Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls, MT.

In today's dollars, Sentinel will invest \$3.2 billion into North Dakota alone. The state will need to prepare for a workforce hub for thousands of construction staff and support personnel. On base construction will include new construction and renovation to support command, communications, maintenance, training and storage facilities.

What's unique is the construction off base in North Dakota which includes 15 Alert Facilities, 150 Launch Facilities, new communication towers, miles of new and existing utility corridors, multiple construction laydown and staging areas that will be in place for an estimated 3-5 years, and North Dakota is the only state with a Tribal resolution with Three Affiliated Tribes. With F.E. Warren AFB scheduled to break ground this fall, it will be Minot's priority to solidify strategic relationships at all levels and get boots on the ground to prepare North Dakota for the largest Department of Defense modernization project ever undertaken.

Minot Air Force Base plays a vital role in our national defense and our state economy, and it is our responsibility to ensure that our community has the resources it needs to continue to support advancement of the modernization projects that are underway.

The Department of Commerce Base Retention Grant Program funding will support strategic advocacy and awareness and Sentinel preparation. Specifically with strategic meetings with leadership at all levels, hosting a Nuclear Triad Symposium in Washington DC to bringing a Nuclear Triad Symposium to North Dakota. Building strategic partnerships with key military associations and organizations and more. With Sentinel preparation workforce is a key area of focus, along with coalition development and strategic partnerships.

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve and has supported the communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo in past legislative sessions with a mission to maintain military excellence and increase our competitive advantage for the North Dakota National Guard while maintaining missions for Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base.

I ask for your support of SB 2240 and will stand by for any questions that you may have.

NORTH DAKOTA MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM REQUEST | SENATE BILL NO. 2240**APPROPRIATION – DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – BASE RETENTION GRANT PROGRAM**

The Military Support Program is an appropriation to the Department of Commerce for communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo. The funds appropriated by the legislature are for maintaining the missions and attracting new military missions at Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base, and to support the North Dakota National Guard in Fargo.

The proposed funds of \$1,900,000 must be used to support each community at the following levels for the 2023-2025 biennium: Minot \$900,000; Grand Forks \$500,000; and Fargo \$500,000. The appropriation would restore community military funding with enhanced funding to prepare North Dakota for the Sentinel modernization project.

NORTH DAKOTA MILITARY ECONOMIC IMPACT

In fiscal year (FY) 2021 military organizations employed 14,092 people and created about 3,843 indirect jobs in North Dakota. Annual payroll for military employees is approximately \$767.1 million and indirect salaries are approximately \$202.8 million. The military also has direct expenses for construction, services, materials, equipment and supplies of \$188.2 million. Total military economic impact in North Dakota for FY 2021 was estimated at \$1.16 billion.

*Figures are from the North Dakota Military FY21 Economic Impact Analysis report prepared by NGND-PFO-IR

Minot Air Force Base	FY 21	\$607 million
Grand Forks Air Force Base	FY 19	\$270 million
ND National Guard	FY 21	\$315 million

WHY NOW

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo have raised funds privately and have support for the military efforts in each community but with two sessions without funding and additional challenges facing each community there is a need to restore community military funding with enhanced funding to prepare North Dakota for the Sentinel modernization project.

Minot – Minot Air Force Base (MAFB) is the only dual-wing nuclear-capable base in the nation, hosting two legs of the nuclear triad. The 5th Bomb Wing operates 26 B-52 aircraft, and the 91st Missile Wing operates 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) sites. Major modernization projects are underway for the bombers, missiles and weapons system.

The Base Retention Grant Program funding will support:

- Advocacy and Awareness
 - Strategic meetings with Washington DC leadership and U.S. Air Force Global Strike Command
 - Host Nuclear Triad Annual Symposium in Washington DC to educate industry, elected officials and military on nuclear deterrence and the importance of all three legs of the nuclear triad
 - Bring to North Dakota a Nuclear Triad Symposium with the objectives outlined above
 - Bomber Constituency Group support of the modernization and nuclear mission of the B52 and the U.S. Air Force's Long-Range Standoff Weapon (LRSO) program
 - Strategic partnerships with key military associations and organizations
 - Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and MAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives
- Sentinel Preparation
 - Workforce hub research and planning
 - Build business resource hub for North Dakota
 - Coalition development and strategic partnerships with F.E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne WY and Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls MT to prepare our state for the largest Department of Defense modernization project
 - Stand up the Sentinel Constituency Group to support the Air Force's program to modernize the ICBM

Grand Forks – Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB) is an Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Base. The mission of the 319th Reconnaissance Wing is to provide decisional advantage to our warfighters and national leaders through support of our Nation’s Global Hawk High Altitude ISR mission.

The Base Retention Grant Program funding will support:

- Advocacy and Awareness
 - Annual strategic meetings with Air Force leadership at Pentagon and Air Combat Command
 - Community and stakeholder education on new Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) designation at GFAFB and the additional cyber, communications, and technology work to occur
 - Brief rotating senior Air Force leadership on GFAFB infrastructure, ISR and cyber-capabilities, and the eco-system among GFAFB, Grand Sky, UND, and Grand Forks community partners
- Quality of Life
 - Research, studies, and investments into quality of life for service members and their families to include support of K-12 public education, student services, higher education programming and research, medical care and behavioral/mental health, and educational and recreational opportunities
 - Utilize the Support of Military Families Report, which is weighed by Air Force leadership during mission and basing decisions, to identify and address how to best support the military family
- Strategic Advising
 - Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and GFAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives
 - Utilize experts to arrange meetings with top Air Force leadership and to help craft strategic priorities and messaging
 - Receive updates on external and internal priorities and plans for DoD policies and budgets

Fargo – The mission of Fargo-based Air National Guard 119th Wing is to provide trained and ready Airmen executing world-class MQ-9 precision attack and reconnaissance, kinetic and non-kinetic target intelligence production, and expeditionary support capabilities for the nation and state.

The Base Retention Grant Program funding will support:

- Advocacy and Awareness
 - Host strategic meetings and engagements with key federal and military officials to maintain and bolster national awareness and demonstrate community military support
 - Obtain strategic advisors to support advocacy efforts at the federal level
 - Increase regional awareness of military efforts through marketing and public relations campaigns
- Advancement of Personnel Recruitment
 - Augment ND Air National Guard recruitment efforts through targeted marketing campaigns
 - Engage in promotional efforts to promote National Guard enlistment and employment
- Community-Based Programming and Support
 - Host military appreciation events to increase community support for military personnel and missions
 - Expand existing military support efforts such as the business Honor Star program and Deployment Events, by matching private funding with public funding

NORTH DAKOTA MILITARY SUPPORT HISTORY & BACKGROUND

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve and has supported the communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo in past legislative sessions with a mission to maintain our military excellence and increase our competitive advantage for the North Dakota National Guard while maintaining missions for Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base.

Past State of North Dakota Community Funding

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019	\$ 600,000	July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015	\$1,500,000
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017	\$1,500,000	July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2013	\$ 975,000



FMWF Chamber Support for SB 2240

01/23/2023

Chair Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

For the record, my name is Katherine Grindberg, and I have the pleasure of serving as Executive Vice President of the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo (FMWF) Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's mission is to be a catalyst for economic growth and prosperity for businesses, members, and the greater community. On behalf of our over 1,900 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of SB 2240.

I am honored to come before this committee, in partnership with other communities from across this great state, to respectfully ask for your support of the Base Retention Grant Program. In 2011 this program was established to maintain our state's military excellence and increase our competitive advantage, while maintaining missions at Minot Air Force Base, Grand Forks Air Force Base, and the Fargo Air National Guard Base. This program remains to be a truly collaborative effort across the state to maintain and support North Dakota's military missions and personnel.

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve, and we are extremely grateful for the support of previous legislative assemblies and their commitment to this program. The soldiers and airmen stationed throughout North Dakota play a critical role in our state's vibrancy. In FY 2021, the total military economic impact across the state was over a billion dollars. As it relates to our local communities, these bases have a profound impact far beyond economics.

The Air National Guard's 119th Wing has been a tremendous asset not only for our community, but for our nation. From fighting flood in the Red River Valley, flying F-16 over our nation's capital, supporting the fight against COVID-19, or executing world-class MQ-9 precision attack and reconnaissance, kinetic and non-kinetic target intelligence production and expeditionary support, the nationally recognized Happy Hooligans are always ready to serve our community, state, and country.

Whether it be strategic advocacy and awareness, advancement of personnel recruitment, or community-based programming and support, the FMWF Chamber has had the honor of supporting the Happy Hooligans in a variety of ways. Our private sector partners have continued to step up and financially support these efforts alongside the public funds and are committed to continuing to do so.

On behalf of our members, I respectfully ask the 68th North Dakota Legislative Assembly to support the appropriation of \$1.9 million to continue our mission to maintain our state's military excellence and increase our competitive advantage. Thank you to the committee for your time and consideration this morning, I would be happy to stand for any questions.

Respectfully,

Katherine Grindberg

Executive Vice President
FMWF Chamber of Commerce
kgrindberg@fmwfcchamber.com



**North Dakota Senate
Appropriations Committee
Chairman Brad Bekkedahl**

By: Tom Ross
Mayor, City of Minot
tom.ross@minotnd.gov
701-857-4750

In Support of SB 2240

Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is Tom Ross and I am the Mayor of the City of Minot. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on behalf of my community.

The Minot Air Force base is an important piece of the nation's national security as a home of two of the three legs of the nuclear triad. But beyond that heavy burden, MAFB is also a major piece of the City of Minot and the State of North Dakota. It brings in highly skilled, trained, and professional employees into the state, bolsters the local and regional economy, and has lived up to the motto that "only the best come north."

Minot is the home of 26 B-52 bombers with the 5th Bomb Wing as well as 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) sites as part of the 91st Missile Wing. For years, Minot has put its money where its mouth is in helping to fund base retention efforts with Team Minot on Task Force 21. We will continue to do so.

I ask you, Mr. Chairman, and committee members, to prioritize our friends of Minot Air Force base by voting in favor of recommending a "Do Pass" on SB2240. The City of Minot is making major investments to prepare our community for the coming Sentinel Modernization Project and the influx of additional activity, employees, and new families to our state. We've begun a housing study and community planning efforts to prepare for the thousands of new residents the Sentinel project is expected to bring in. SB2240 will undoubtedly help the State Commerce Department aid our mission in making Minot a proud place for the Air Force Base to call home for many more years to come.

We appreciate the previous funding from the Legislature in the past. We hope you continue to find the value in supporting the Minot Air Force Base as it modernizes and grows to become an even more important piece to the security of the nation.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.



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**Testimony of Teran Doerr
Economic Development Association of North Dakota
In Support of SB 2240
January 23, 2023**

Chair Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

I am Teran Doerr, executive director of Bowman County Development Corporation and current president of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND). I want to express our support for SB 2240 regarding the base retention grant program.

EDND represents more than 80 state economic development organizations on the front line of economic development efforts throughout North Dakota. The organization's primary purpose is to promote the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota to develop more vibrant and efficient communities and improve quality of life.

North Dakota's long-term future depends on economic diversification and supporting ventures that bring wealth to the state. SB 2240 will restore community military funding to communities with Air Force bases or Air National Guard facilities and help prepare our military communities prepare for an uncertain future.

The military and defense industry are significant drivers of economic development in the state, specifically in the regions where bases and military development are located. The positive benefits from these military installations impact every citizen in North Dakota. Often overlooked, the companies that support the military are major employers and tax generators.

Having a strong military presence in North Dakota changes the dynamics of our state. A significant number of servicemen and women exit the military every year. These individuals are highly skilled, community-oriented individuals with families that provide a workforce for private companies. North Dakota has a high quality of life, making it common for these citizens to stay where they were based. This is a significant asset for economic development efforts.

Thank you for your energy and discussion regarding the base retention grant program and the importance of supporting our military excellence in North Dakota. EDND urges you to support SB 2240. Thank you.

Grand Forks Region Base Retention and Investment Committee

BRIC

Gracie Lian
BRIC Coordinator
151 S 4th Street, Ste. N608
Grand Forks, North Dakota 58206-5726

January 23rd, 2023

Chair Bekkedahl and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

The Grand Forks Base Retention and Investment Committee (BRIC) writes in support of SB 2240 to re-establish the Base Retention Grant Program.

The BRIC was established shortly after the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round to support and enhance Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB), its infrastructure, and its current and future missions. The BRIC is comprised of community leaders invested in supporting the people and missions of GFAFB. The Grand Forks community takes great pride in supporting America's military and our service men and women while also recognizing the benefits GFAFB brings to our local region and the state, with an annual impact of \$270 million.

Since its inception, the BRIC has worked tirelessly to support GFAFB and its Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) agreement with Grand Forks County to allow the development of Grand Sky, the nation's first commercial Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) business park, on leased GFAFB land. Grand Sky's groundbreaking occurred in 2015 and has garnered \$65 million in capital investment since. In 2021 the Air Force announced that GFAFB would be the Air Force's center of excellence for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) with future ISR missions to be housed at GFAFB. These missions have yet to be announced, however, and priorities and initiatives change quickly in the military. Grand Forks finds it imperative to increase national awareness that GFAFB, Grand Sky, UND, and Grand Forks community partners are international leaders in military technology and UAS development.

In the past year, GFAFB and Grand Sky have both acquired new tenants, the Space Development Agency (SDA) and the Department of Defense's Testing Resource Management Center (TRMC), respectively. These two entities exhibit a federal investment into our local community and state that must be embraced and communicated to ever-changing Air Force leadership to ensure Grand Forks remains a priority for mission and basing decisions.

While GFAFB is mission ready, the BRIC knows that there is much work to do. We face rising challenges such as ever-changing military policies, budgets, and priorities. To continue building GFAFB as the base of the future, Grand Forks must continue **Advocacy and Awareness** through annual strategic meetings with Air Force leadership at the Pentagon, Air Combat Command, and 16th Air Force. This includes briefing Air Force leadership on GFAFB infrastructure, ISR and cyber capabilities, and the UAS eco-system at Grand Forks, Grand Sky, UND, and ND. Grand Forks also must address and bolster our standing in existing military **Quality of Life** priorities, as these criteria are integral to the Air Force when making mission and basing decisions. Lastly, Grand Forks must utilize **Strategic Advising** to inform advocacy efforts, to help create national and international awareness of our community, and to help the community prioritize quality-of-life efforts. SB 2240 would be incredibly impactful in helping our community address these goals and initiatives.

Grand Forks Region Base Retention and Investment Committee

BRIC

The Grand Forks BRIC is happy to stand beside the Fargo and Minot communities in our support of SB 2240 as the success of each of our military installations is integral to our state and its citizens. In FY 2021, the military economic impact for ND was \$1.16 billion. This number encapsulates economic development, direct and indirect jobs, and procurement. State investment into North Dakota's military is imperative to protect vital installation missions and economic diversification in ND.

Thank you for your service, time, and consideration as the Grand Forks Base Retention and Investment Committee humbly asks for your support of SB 2240.

Respectfully,

Gracie Lian
Base Retention and Investment Committee – Coordinator

For:
Todd Feland, City of Grand Forks
Dana Sande, City of Grand Forks
Keith Lund, Grand Forks Region EDC
Dr. Robert Kraus, University of North Dakota
Dr. Mark Askelson, University of North Dakota
Barry Wilfahrt, The Chamber GF/EGF
Bruce Gjovig, USAF Civic Leader Program member
Dave Engen, Grand Forks County
Bob Rost, Grand Forks County
Tom Ford, Grand Forks County

SB 2240 – Letter of Support
Senate Appropriations Committee
01/23/2023

Chair Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

For the record, our names are Steve Blazek and Shawn Dobberstein, and we have the privilege of serving as co-chairs for Fargo's National Guard Support Group (NGSG). On behalf of our support group, we respectfully offer testimony in support of SB 2240.

The Fargo NGSB was established in 2004 and is made up of business leaders, active military personnel, and two retired Adjutant Generals. We're honored to serve as an advocate and support arm for our local National Guard units. With over a third of the statewide economic impact of the North Dakota National Guard, the continued success of our local guard units is imperative for not only our community but the state.

We commend the legislature for recognizing our military's contributions to our state and individual communities and for the state's previous investments in our region's continued success. Our community support group has intentionally collaborated with partners in Grand Forks and Minot, maximizing the impact of our efforts. The relationship between our three support groups has never been stronger than it is today. With joint meetings between leadership, community visits, and partnership on advocacy events, we have maintained a strong alliance.

Our region has strategically identified three areas in which state funding and support would provide meaningful impact: Advocacy and Awareness, Advancement of Personnel Recruitment, and Community-Based Programming and Support. We believe one of the greatest assets of our support group is the ability to host strategic meetings and engagements with key federal and military officials to maintain and bolster national awareness and demonstrate community military support. This past year, we partnered with our Minot and Grand Forks counterparts to host a North Dakota Guard Reception in Washington D.C. The event was well attended and included leadership from each community, North Dakota Congressional Delegates, various federal National Guard leadership members, and other key stakeholders. While in our Nation's Capital, our delegation of community advocates met with all three North Dakota Congressional Delegates, National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) President Brig. Gen. Roy Robinson, Director of the Army National Guard, Lt. Gen. Jon Jensen, and many others. Many of our conversations centered around gratitude for their support of the North Dakota National Guard, highlighting the need for permanent assignment of MQ-9 Block 5 aircraft and reinstatement of Air National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance.

Additionally, our community support for personnel recruitment is critical to the end strength of the National Guard. As it relates to the Air National Guard, there has been a pause in federal recruitment dollars. The NGSB has been crucial in driving interested candidates to recruiters through various campaigns.

On behalf of our Fargo NGSB, we respectfully ask for the reinstatement of the Base Retention Grant Program and the appropriation of \$1.9 million. SB 2240 further supports the collaborative work of Fargo, Grand Forks, and Minot to support North Dakota's military missions and personnel. North Dakota has always demonstrated strong support for those who serve, and we are extremely grateful for the support of previous legislative assemblies and their commitment to this program. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Steve Blazek & Shawn Dobberstein
Co-Chairs
Fargo National Guard Support Group

SB2240 Base Retention

Bill sponsor: Randy Burckhard, State Senator, Minot
Civic Leader at Minot AFB. Member of TF21

- National Security issue. GBSD(Ground Based Strategic
2. Deterrent) Sentinel Missile System.
3. Funding dollars for planning & advocacy -avoid man-camps.
 4. ND abbreviation = North Dakota. "Nuclear Deterrence"
 5. MAFB is the "Home of the Global Striker"
 6. Explain the Nuclear Triad: Submarines, Bombers and Missiles
 7. Minot AFB is the ONLY AFB with two nuclear missions.
 8. North Dakota: (1) We Provide, via ag commodities (2)We Power, by producing 6X more energy than we use (3)We Protect, via the Nat'l Guard, Minot AFB, & Grand Forks AFB, "Home of the Global Striker" National Security, national & International impact.
 9. Impact of this DOD project: \$3.2B, 2500 to 3000 workers coming to ND which could be part of the solution to our Workforce needs.
 10. MAFB economic impact: \$610M per year. ND Nat'l Guard impact. GF AFB impact.
 11. The importance of a state of the art nuclear deterrent? The analogy to a parachute: "If you don't have one when you need one, you'll never need one again."
 12. "Warhead to the forehead" in 30 minutes or less or the next one is free.
 13. What our adversaries are doing: China, Russia, Iraq, North Korea.
Our request: \$900k, \$500k and \$500k.
 15. General Russ Anarde, Northrop Grumman, Corporate Lead Executive, commented about "the importance of advocacy work."

Any questions?



Testimony in Support of
Senate Bill No. 2240
Senate Appropriations
January 23, 2023

TESTIMONY OF

Josh Teigen, Commissioner, ND Department of Commerce

Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Appropriations Committee, my name is Josh Teigen, Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce. I am here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 2240 which proposes Commerce administer a base retention grant program for communities with an air force base or air national guard facilities.

The North Dakota Department of Commerce works to improve the quality of life for North Dakota citizens by leading efforts to attract, retain and expand wealth. The air force and air national guard and more broadly, the military and defense industries have a major impact on the economic diversification and resiliency of North Dakota.

Maintaining an air force and national guard presence benefits citizens across North Dakota as it results in an increase in direct employment, indirect employment through the companies that support the military operations, as well as an increase in tertiary employment through the need for an expanded service sector. This all leads to an increase in tax generation for the state.

Workforce is one of if not the most important challenges North Dakota faces today and support of a strong military presence in the state can be a part of an "all of the above" strategy the state deploys. Military operations in North Dakota brings in servicemen and women from around the country who will be looking for a place to call home after they exit the military. North Dakota offers a high quality of living and family friendly communities which appeals to servicemembers transitioning to the civilian workforce.

In conclusion, I thank you for considering Commerce's administration of a base retention grant program for these communities and I'd like to recommend a minor revision to Senate Bill 2240, which would allow Commerce to develop guidelines for the use of funds. This revision would ensure Commerce has the ability to drive these dollars to uses which have the highest economic impact. Commerce urges your support of SB 2240, thank you.

255 N. 4th St.
PO Box 5200
Grand Forks, ND 58206-5200



City of Grand Forks
(701) 746-4636

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2240
House Appropriations Committee
March 13, 2023

Brandon Bochenski, Mayor
Grand Forks, ND

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, My name is Brandon Bochenski and I am the proud Mayor of the City of Grand Forks.

I am providing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2240 which would provide base retention funding to Minot, Fargo and Grand Forks.

As long as the Grand Forks Air Force Base has been in existence, it has been a vital part of our community. We have fought hard to keep the base in Grand Forks.

The funds within this bill will be used in the following ways in Grand Forks.

Advocacy and Awareness

- Annual strategic meetings with Air Force leadership at Pentagon and Air Combat Command
- Community and stakeholder education on new Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) designation at GFAFB and the additional cyber, communications, and technology work to occur
- Brief rotating senior Air Force leadership on GFAFB infrastructure, ISR and cyber-capabilities, and the eco-system among GFAFB, Grand Sky, UND, and Grand Forks community partners

Quality of Life

- Research, studies, and investments into quality of life for service members and their families to include support of K-12 public education, student services, higher education programming and research, medical care and behavioral/mental health, and educational and recreational opportunities
- Utilize the Support of Military Families Report, which is weighed by Air Force leadership during mission and basing decisions, to identify and address how to best support the military family

Strategic Advising

- Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and GFAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives
- Utilize experts to arrange meetings with top Air Force leadership and to help craft strategic priorities and messaging
- Receive updates on external and internal priorities and plans for DoD policies and budgets

Thank you for your time as I request a Do Pass on SB 2240.



**Testimony of Mr. Keith Lund
Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation President & CEO**

**Senate Bill 2240
House Appropriations Committee
Bismarck, North Dakota – March 13, 2023**

Chairman Vigesaa, Vice Chairman Kempernich, and members of the House Appropriations Committee, my name is Keith Lund, and I am President & CEO of the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation (EDC). I am pleased to submit this written testimony in support of SB 2240.

The Grand Forks Region EDC is a proud member of the Base Retention and Investment Committee (BRIC) in Grand Forks. BRIC's purpose is to promote the retention and expansion of missions at the Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB) and Grand Sky Business and Aviation Park. According to a recent report published by the North Dakota National Guard, missions at the military installations at Grand Forks, Minot and Fargo contribute over \$1 billion to North Dakota's economy. However, these missions and their impact are not guaranteed. It takes steadfast education, advocacy and intentional partnership to maintain and increase federal investment in these installations.

Grand Forks leaders have worked to position GFAFB as the "Base of the Future", with Air Force and Space Development Agency missions. In addition to the exciting missions on base, the Test Resource Management Center recently announced a significant mission to be housed at Grand Sky.

While we are pleased with the current missions at GFAFB and Grand Sky, we also recognized that priorities change quickly in the Department of Defense (DOD). It is crucial that

we continue to increase awareness of our strategic location and capabilities within the Pentagon, Air Combat Command and other DOD partner agencies to insure we maintain and grow these missions and attract new missions.

The communities of Grand Forks, Minot and Fargo have raised both private and public funds and continue to support military efforts in each community. We are fortunate to have received support from the North Dakota Legislature in previous biennia to leverage these funds. However, after two sessions without this important funding and a rapidly increasing evolution of investment priorities within the DOD, there is a growing need to restore community military funding to enhance our collective efforts to advocate for the modernization of our military installations and to further ensure the current economic contributions to North Dakota continues.

Thank you, Chairman Vigesaa, Vice Chairman Kempernich, and members of the House Appropriations Committee for your service to the State of North Dakota and for the opportunity to provide this written testimony.



Support for SB 2240
House Appropriations Committee
Chairman Vigesaa
March 13, 2023

Chairman Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

I am Kevin Black and I serve as the board chair for the Minot Area Chamber EDC. It is the mission of the Minot Area Chamber EDC to advocate for and invest in business activity by being a collaborative partner in the community, focused on improving quality of life for all. On behalf of our nearly 700 member investors, I offer testimony in support of SB 2240.

We recognize the significant impact military has on our state with an economic impact of \$1.16 billion and locally with Minot Air Force Base's FY21 annual economic impact of \$607 million.

Support for military is one of our organization's strategic five key pillars. Minot Area Chamber EDC will continue efforts to secure funding from the City of Minot, Minot Area Chamber EDC member-investors, and raise funds privately for support of military. Local funds will be used to support military appreciation events, the Adopt-An-Airman program, Military Affairs Committee, Honorary Commanders program, Right Start program, and more.

State funds would be used for strategic advocacy and awareness, along with preparing the state for Sentinel. After two sessions without funding there is a critical need to restore community military funding through the Department of Commerce Base Retention Grant Program.

The U.S. Air Force is replacing its aging Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with the Sentinel ICBM. The Sentinel ICBM represents the modernization of the land-based leg of the U.S. nuclear triad. Nuclear deterrence is the #1 priority mission of the Department of Defense. Sentinel will replace 400 Minuteman III ICBMs currently in service for more than 50 years at F.E. Warren Air Force Base (Wyoming), Malmstrom Air Force Base (Montana) and Minot Air Force Base (North Dakota). Minot is the last to receive the new weapon system.

Existing launch facilities, missile alert facilities, communication systems, infrastructure, and technologies will be modernized and replaced as necessary to support the new Sentinel weapon system. The Minuteman III ICBMs will be decommissioned. With Minot being last to receive the new system Minot it is critical that we stay diligent in our efforts to ensure the program is fully funded and realized.

It also is important to plan for the workforce needs a project of this scale brings. Planning the workforce component needs to start today to ensure our state is ready for what lies ahead.

We respectfully ask for your support of SB 2240.

Kevin Black
Minot Area Chamber EDC 2023 Board Chair
kevin.black@creedence-energy.com

NORTH DAKOTA MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM REQUEST | SENATE BILL NO. 2240**APPROPRIATION – DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – BASE RETENTION GRANT PROGRAM**

The Military Support Program is an appropriation to the Department of Commerce for communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo. The funds appropriated by the legislature are for maintaining the missions and attracting new military missions at Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base, and to support the North Dakota National Guard in Fargo.

The proposed funds of \$1,900,000 must be used to support each community at the following levels for the 2023-2025 biennium: Minot \$900,000; Grand Forks \$500,000; and Fargo \$500,000. The appropriation would restore community military funding with enhanced funding to prepare North Dakota for the Sentinel modernization project.

NORTH DAKOTA MILITARY ECONOMIC IMPACT

In fiscal year (FY) 2021 military organizations employed 14,092 people and created about 3,843 indirect jobs in North Dakota. Annual payroll for military employees is approximately \$767.1 million and indirect salaries are approximately \$202.8 million. The military also has direct expenses for construction, services, materials, equipment and supplies of \$188.2 million. Total military economic impact in North Dakota for FY 2021 was estimated at \$1.16 billion.

*Figures are from the North Dakota Military FY21 Economic Impact Analysis report prepared by NGND-PFO-IR

Minot Air Force Base	FY 21	\$607 million
Grand Forks Air Force Base	FY 19	\$270 million
ND National Guard	FY 21	\$315 million

WHY NOW

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo have raised funds privately and have support for the military efforts in each community but with two sessions without funding and additional challenges facing each community there is a need to restore community military funding with enhanced funding to prepare North Dakota for the Sentinel modernization project.

Minot – Minot Air Force Base (MAFB) is the only dual-wing nuclear-capable base in the nation, hosting two legs of the nuclear triad. The 5th Bomb Wing operates 26 B-52 aircraft, and the 91st Missile Wing operates 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) sites. Major modernization projects are underway for the bombers, missiles and weapons system.

The Base Retention Grant Program funding will support:

- Advocacy and Awareness
 - Strategic meetings with Washington DC leadership and U.S. Air Force Global Strike Command
 - Host Nuclear Triad Annual Symposium in Washington DC to educate industry, elected officials and military on nuclear deterrence and the importance of all three legs of the nuclear triad
 - Bring to North Dakota a Nuclear Triad Symposium with the objectives outlined above
 - Bomber Constituency Group support of the modernization and nuclear mission of the B52 and the U.S. Air Force's Long-Range Standoff Weapon (LRSO) program
 - Strategic partnerships with key military associations and organizations
 - Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and MAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives
- Sentinel Preparation
 - Workforce hub research and planning
 - Build business resource hub for North Dakota
 - Coalition development and strategic partnerships with F.E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne WY and Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls MT to prepare our state for the largest Department of Defense modernization project
 - Stand up the Sentinel Constituency Group to support the Air Force's program to modernize the ICBM

Grand Forks – Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB) is an Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Base. The mission of the 319th Reconnaissance Wing is to provide decisional advantage to our warfighters and national leaders through support of our Nation’s Global Hawk High Altitude ISR mission.

The Base Retention Grant Program funding will support:

- Advocacy and Awareness
 - Annual strategic meetings with Air Force leadership at Pentagon and Air Combat Command
 - Community and stakeholder education on new Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) designation at GFAFB and the additional cyber, communications, and technology work to occur
 - Brief rotating senior Air Force leadership on GFAFB infrastructure, ISR and cyber-capabilities, and the eco-system among GFAFB, Grand Sky, UND, and Grand Forks community partners
- Quality of Life
 - Research, studies, and investments into quality of life for service members and their families to include support of K-12 public education, student services, higher education programming and research, medical care and behavioral/mental health, and educational and recreational opportunities
 - Utilize the Support of Military Families Report, which is weighed by Air Force leadership during mission and basing decisions, to identify and address how to best support the military family
- Strategic Advising
 - Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and GFAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives
 - Utilize experts to arrange meetings with top Air Force leadership and to help craft strategic priorities and messaging
 - Receive updates on external and internal priorities and plans for DoD policies and budgets

Fargo – The mission of Fargo-based Air National Guard 119th Wing is to provide trained and ready Airmen executing world-class MQ-9 precision attack and reconnaissance, kinetic and non-kinetic target intelligence production, and expeditionary support capabilities for the nation and state.

The Base Retention Grant Program funding will support:

- Advocacy and Awareness
 - Host strategic meetings and engagements with key federal and military officials to maintain and bolster national awareness and demonstrate community military support
 - Obtain strategic advisors to support advocacy efforts at the federal level
 - Increase regional awareness of military efforts through marketing and public relations campaigns
- Advancement of Personnel Recruitment
 - Augment ND Air National Guard recruitment efforts through targeted marketing campaigns
 - Engage in promotional efforts to promote National Guard enlistment and employment
- Community-Based Programming and Support
 - Host military appreciation events to increase community support for military personnel and missions
 - Expand existing military support efforts such as the business Honor Star program and Deployment Events, by matching private funding with public funding

NORTH DAKOTA MILITARY SUPPORT HISTORY & BACKGROUND

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve and has supported the communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo in past legislative sessions with a mission to maintain our military excellence and increase our competitive advantage for the North Dakota National Guard while maintaining missions for Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base.

Past State of North Dakota Community Funding

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019	\$ 600,000	July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015	\$1,500,000
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017	\$1,500,000	July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2013	\$ 975,000



Support for SB 2240
House Appropriations Committee
Chairman Vigessaa
March 13, 2023

Chairman Vigessaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

Good morning, Chairman and members of the House Appropriations Committee. I am Brekka Kramer the President and CEO of the Minot Area Chamber EDC and a proud member of Governor Burgum's Task Force for Military Issues in North Dakota executive committee, which is also called TF MIND. Nationally I serve as an U.S. Air Force Global Strike Command Civic Leader and was recently appointed to the Strategic Deterrent Coalition Board of Directors.

I am here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 2240. I am joined by leadership from Grand Forks and Fargo in a united front to support military throughout North Dakota. What brought our communities together is TF MIND the Governor's appointed task force chaired by the Lt. Governor Tammy Miller. The original task force that stood up in January 2019 included members from around North Dakota with a focus on Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo, the three communities with the largest military footprint. TF MIND has expanded to include additional state departments and communities. TF MIND meets to discuss issues that impact military members and their families. I want to thank you Governor Burgum for bringing our communities together.

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo each lead efforts to support military and while this looks a little different in each of our respective communities, the efforts are critical as the total military economic impact in North Dakota was estimated at \$1.16 billion in FY 2021.

With the bill in front of you, we seek merely to restore public community military funding to the previous levels of \$500,000 to all three communities. Then further enhanced funding in the community of Minot over that traditional amount by another \$400,000 to prepare our great state for the Sentinel modernization project.

As we locally support military efforts our communities routinely raise funds privately. In the past decade the private funds were leveraged with public dollars. However, that changed during the 2019 session and we have all gone without the state funding. Now our communities have additional challenges that each face to continue to support our military today while preparing for big changes, and opportunities, that are around the corner.

The military support program has been in the past, and we propose today, an appropriation to the Department of Commerce Base Retention Grant Program for communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo. The funds appropriated by the legislature are for maintaining the missions and attracting new military missions at Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base, and to support the North Dakota National Guard in Fargo. To sum up the math, the total proposed funds of \$1.9 million would be allocated as \$900,000 to Minot and \$500,000 each to Grand Forks and Fargo.

Both Adjutant General Al Dorhmann and Department of Commerce Commissioner Josh Teigen are on record in support of SB 2240. As General Dorhmann shared in his testimony to Senate Appropriations, "The time to make sure your Bases are in the best possible position to maintain your missions and your personnel in the state isn't when the BRAC comes about....the time is in the calm." BRAC stands for Base Realignment and Closure and is the process the Department of Defense has used to reorganize its installation infrastructure.

It is critical that we stay diligent in the advocacy work we do to maintain missions and attract new missions. We work continuously to ensure our state in the best position we can be.

- Brekka Kramer testimony continued -

At this time, I'll share more about Minot Air Force Base and what lies ahead.

Minot Air Force Base for FY21 had an economic impact of \$607 million. Minot isn't Minot without our Base. Minot Air Force Base is the only dual-wing nuclear capable base in the nation hosting two legs of the nuclear triad. The three legs of the U.S. nuclear triad serve as the backbone of America's national security. The triad, along with assigned forces provide 24/7 deterrence to prevent catastrophic actions from our adversaries. The triad stands ready, if necessary, to deliver a decisive response, anywhere, anytime. The triad includes land, sea and air. Minot Air Force Base has both the land and air deterrence. The 5th Bomb Wing operates 26 B-52 aircraft, and the 91st Missile Wing operates 150 Minuteman III ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) sites. Major modernization projects are underway for the bombers, missiles and the weapons system.

The mega Department of Defense project Minot is working to prepare North Dakota for is the U.S. Air Force's Sentinel ICBM weapon system, formerly known as Ground Based Strategic Deterrence (GBSD), a critical modernization of the ground-based leg of the U.S. nuclear triad, the bedrock of national security. The Sentinel system replaces the aging ICBM system, which has been in service for over 50 years. No modernization project has ever been fully executed and Minot Air Force Base is third behind F.E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, WY and Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls, MT.

In today's dollars, Sentinel will invest \$3.2 billion into North Dakota alone. The state will need to prepare for a workforce hub for thousands of construction staff and support personnel. On base construction will include new construction and renovation to support command, communications, maintenance, training and storage facilities.

What's unique is the construction off Base in North Dakota which includes 15 Alert Facilities, 150 Launch Facilities, new communication towers, miles of new and existing utility corridors, multiple construction laydown and staging areas that will be in place for an estimated 3-5 years, and North Dakota is the only state with a Tribal resolution with Three Affiliated Tribes. With F.E. Warren AFB scheduled to break ground this fall, it will be Minot's priority to solidify strategic relationships at all levels and get boots on the ground to prepare North Dakota for the largest Department of Defense modernization project ever undertaken.

Minot Air Force Base plays a vital role in our national defense and our state economy, and it is our responsibility to ensure that our community has the resources it needs to continue to support advancement of the modernization projects that are underway.

The Department of Commerce Base Retention Grant Program funding will support strategic advocacy and awareness and Sentinel preparation. Specifically with strategic meetings with leadership at all levels, hosting a Nuclear Triad Symposium in Washington DC to bringing a Nuclear Triad Symposium to North Dakota. Building strategic partnerships with key military associations and organizations and more. With Sentinel preparation workforce is a key area of focus, along with coalition development and strategic partnerships.

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve and has supported the communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo in past legislative sessions with a mission to maintain military excellence and increase our competitive advantage for the North Dakota National Guard while maintaining missions for Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base.

I ask for your support of SB 2240 and will stand by for any questions that you may have.



Support for SB 2240
House Appropriations Committee
March 13, 2023

Chairman and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

I am Mark Jantzer, Chairman of Task Force 21. Task Force 21-Minot (TF-21) is an activity of the Minot Area Chamber EDC that educates the local community, North Dakota officials, members of Congress and the public on national security issues, particularly ones that affect Minot Air Force Base, the U.S. Air Force, and our nuclear deterrent.

TF21 members include Mayor Tom Ross, Brekka E. Kramer, Kevin Black, Senator Randy Burckhard, Bruce I. Christianson, Randy Hauck, Peter Hankla, Jessica Klein, Jonn Knecht, and Jason Zimmerman.

TF21 members have a sincere interest in working to fulfill the mission of the task force with a commitment to serve. Outside of the position held by the Minot Area Chamber EDC President | CEO, all TF21 members are key community leaders who volunteer and give their time for this critical effort that supports nuclear deterrence and missions at Minot Air Force Base. A focus has been on building a consensus to devote sufficient resources to sustaining and modernizing all three legs of the nuclear triad (land, sea and air).

Minot Air Force Base provides an annual economic impact of \$607 million (FY21). TF21 works consistently and diligently to ensure Minot does not end up on a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list, Minot Air Force Base continues the current missions, and the Department of Defense completes planned modernization projects.

Minot has raised funds privately and the City of Minot has provided funding to support the work of Task Force 21 but with two sessions without funding and additional efforts needed to prepare the State of North Dakota for the largest Department of Defense modernization project with Sentinel there is a gap and the reinstatement of state support is needed. Department of Commerce – Base Retention Grant Program funds would be used for:

Advocacy and Awareness

- Strategic meetings with Washington DC leadership and U.S. Air Force Global Strike Command
- Host Nuclear Triad Annual Symposium in Washington DC to educate industry, elected officials and military on nuclear deterrence and the importance of all three legs of the nuclear triad
- Bring to North Dakota a Nuclear Triad Symposium with the objectives outlined above
- Bomber Constituency Group support of the modernization and nuclear mission of the B52 and the U.S. Air Force's Long-Range Standoff Weapon (LRSO) program
- Strategic partnerships with key military associations and organizations
- Strategic guidance to raise national awareness and align the community and MAFB with current and future Air Force initiatives

Sentinel Preparation

- Workforce hub research and planning
- Build business resource hub for North Dakota
- Coalition development and strategic partnerships with F.E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne WY and Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls MT to prepare our state for the largest Department of Defense modernization project
- Stand up the Sentinel Constituency Group to support the Air Force's program to modernize the ICBM

We ask for your support of Senate Bill No. 2240.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Jantzer
 Task Force 21 Chair
 mjjantzer@gmail.com



PO Box 1091 • Bismarck, ND 58502
701-355-4458 • www.ednd.org

**Testimony of Dana Hager
Economic Development Association of North Dakota
In Support of SB 2240
March 13, 2023**

Chair Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee:

I am Dana Hager, executive director of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND). I want to express our support for SB 2240 regarding the base retention grant program.

EDND represents more than 80 state economic development organizations on the front line of economic development efforts throughout North Dakota. The organization's primary purpose is to promote the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota to develop more vibrant and efficient communities and improve quality of life.

North Dakota's long-term future depends on economic diversification and supporting ventures that bring wealth to the state. SB 2240 will restore community military funding to communities with air force bases or air national guard facilities and help prepare our military communities for what the future holds.

The military and defense industry is a significant driver of economic development in the state, specifically in the regions where bases and military development are located. The positive benefits from these military installations impact every citizen in North Dakota. Often overlooked, the companies that support the military are major employers and tax generators.

Having a strong military presence in North Dakota changes the dynamics of our state. A significant number of servicemen and women exit the military every year. These individuals are highly skilled, community-oriented individuals and families that provide a workforce for private companies. North Dakota has a high-quality of life, making it common for these citizens to stay where they were based. This is a significant asset for economic development efforts.

Thank you for your energy and discussion regarding the base retention grant program and the importance of supporting our military excellence in North Dakota. EDND urges you to support SB 2240. Thank you.



Board of Commissioners

Bob Rost
Grand Forks, ND

Dave Engen
Northwood, ND

Cynthia Pic
Niagara, ND

Kimberly Hagen
Grand Forks, ND

Mark Rustad
Grand Forks, ND

Tom Ford
Grand Forks County
PO Box 5726
Grand Forks, ND 58206-5726

RE: SB 2240 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

Dear Chairman Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

My name is Tom Ford, and I am the Grand Forks County Director of Administration. Thank you for inviting me to be here today on behalf of the Grand Forks community. I am grateful for the opportunity to tell you about what we have been doing and the positive results achieved in growing military, interagency, and commercial missions at Grand Forks Air Force Base (GFAFB).

Grand Forks enjoys an enviable relationship with the Air Force, and particularly with the service members and their families at GFAFB. The partnerships we have forged have positioned GFAFB as a model for the “Base of the Future” not only for the Air Force, but also for other military services such as the ND National Guard, Space Development Agency, and Test Resource Management Center.

Grand Forks has received numerous national awards recognizing its support of GFAFB, and the ND National Guard such as the Abilene Trophy and the Great American Defense Community award, chosen from a field of over 150 military communities nation-wide. Grand Forks continues to be recognized by senior military leaders and other military communities as the model to emulate.

We have worked diligently with the 319th Reconnaissance Wing at Grand Forks AFB to improve quality of life for airmen and their families. The Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease provides GFAFB with flexible funding to be spent on any number of improvements that could not otherwise be accomplished if relied on annually appropriated funding.



Board of Commissioners

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Niagara, ND

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Grand Forks, ND

Mark Rustad
Grand Forks, ND

Grand Forks is committed to improving its quality of life based on the Air Force's 2021 Support of Military Families report. While GFAFB ranked in the top third of installation communities, quality of life remains a priority as mission and basing realignment decisions factor in these criteria. The Grand Forks community continues to strategically meet with Air Force leadership to assess local quality of life, military support, and economic development goals.

In 2021 it was announced that GFAFB would be the Air Force's center of excellence for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) with future ISR missions to be housed at GFAFB. Funding has yet to be allocated, however, and priorities and initiatives can change quickly in the military. Grand Forks finds it imperative to increase national awareness that GFAFB, Grand Sky, UND, and Grand Forks community partners are international leaders in military technology and UAS development. Grand Sky, which has garnered \$65 million in capital investment, is the nation's first commercial UAS and aviation business park located on leased GFAFB land. The Space Development Agency (SDA) announced, and has begun outfitting space, on GFAFB for its first-ever ground operations and integration center. From GFAFB, the SDA will operate and control multiple-layer satellite operations for Tranche 1 (T1) of the National Defense Space Architecture.

Another Department of Defense Agency, the Test Resource Management Center (TRMC), is setting up operations on Grand Sky. Here, TRMC will convert Global Hawk aircraft to aid in hypersonic missile testing. The Range Hawk program will utilize 24 Global Hawk aircraft to conduct hypersonic weapons testing, and other future weapons development globally from Grand Sky and GFAFB.

This success and progress could not have been possible without the total dedication of the community, the relentless support of our CODELL, the Governor and of course, all of you. Moreover, we are focused on creating synergies and opportunities for all North Dakota military installations including the Fargo Air National Guard and Minot AFB. The Fargo Guard has capabilities that can augment the active-duty missions at Grand Forks and guardsmen are already being deployed to support security forces at Minot AFB. The Air Force is increasingly relying on National Guard and Reserves to augment end strength and optimize the "Total Force". The ability of the Fargo Guard to support additional UAS missions and possible tanker or bomber



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missions in the future is critical when Air Force decision makers look at where to bed down these missions.

In fiscal year (FY) 2021 military organizations employed 14,092 people and created about 3,843 indirect jobs in North Dakota. Annual payroll for military employees is approximately \$767.1 million and indirect salaries are approximately \$202.8 million. The military also has direct expenses for construction, services, materials, equipment, and supplies of \$188.2 million. Total military economic impact in North Dakota for FY 2021 was estimated at \$1.16 billion (*Figures are from the North Dakota Military FY21 Economic Impact Analysis report prepared by NDNG*).

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve and has supported the communities of Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo in past legislative sessions. The mission has always been and will continue to be to maintain our military excellence and increase our competitive advantage for the North Dakota National Guard while maintaining missions for Minot AFB and Grand Forks AFB.

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo have raised local private and public funds and continue to support military efforts in each community. However, after two sessions without funding and additional challenges facing each community, there is a need to restore community military funding with enhanced investments to prepare North Dakota for modernization of ND's military installations and to further ensure the strategic and adaptive competitiveness of military bases in North Dakota.



Board of Commissioners

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Grand Forks, ND

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Northwood, ND

Cynthia Pic
Niagara, ND

Kimberly Hagen
Grand Forks, ND

Mark Rustad
Grand Forks, ND

The communities of Minot, Fargo, and Grand Forks are committed to working diligently together and alongside the State of ND to ensure that we continue diversifying our state's economy through economic diversification projects such as Grand Sky and the Sentinel Program, and by recruiting and supporting our citizen soldiers and active-duty service members.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Grand Forks Community.

Respectfully,

Tom Ford

Digitally signed by Tom
Ford
Date: 2023.03.10
13:12:15 -06'00'

Tom Ford
Director of Administration



Testimony in Neutral of
Senate Bill No. 2240
House Appropriations
January 23, 2023

TESTIMONY OF

Josh Teigen, Commissioner, ND Department of Commerce

Chairman Vigessa and members of the Appropriations Committee, my name is Josh Teigen, Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce. I am here today with a neutral testimony on Senate Bill 2240 which proposes Commerce administer a base retention grant program for communities with an air force base or air national guard facilities.

The North Dakota Department of Commerce works to improve the quality of life for North Dakota citizens by leading efforts to attract, retain and expand wealth. The air force and air national guard and more broadly, the military and defense industries have a major impact on the economic diversification and resiliency of North Dakota.

Maintaining an air force and national guard presence benefits citizens across North Dakota as it results in an increase in direct employment, indirect employment through the companies that support the military operations, as well as an increase in tertiary employment through the need for an expanded service sector. This all leads to an increase in tax generation for the state.

Workforce is one of if not the most important challenges North Dakota faces today and support of a strong military presence in the state can be a part of an "all of the above" strategy the state deploys. Military operations in North Dakota brings in servicemen and women from around the country who will be looking for a place to call home after they exit the military. North Dakota offers a high quality of living and family friendly communities which appeals to servicemembers transitioning to the civilian workforce.

In conclusion, I thank you for considering Commerce's administration of a base retention grant program for these communities and I'd like to recommend a minor revision to Senate Bill 2240, which would allow Commerce to develop guidelines for the use of funds. This revision would ensure Commerce has the ability to drive these dollars to uses which have the highest economic impact. Commerce urges your support of SB 2240, thank you.



FMWF Chamber Support for SB 2240

March 13th, 2023

Chair Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

For the record, my name is Shannon Full, and I have the pleasure of serving as President and CEO of the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo (FMWF) Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's mission is to be a catalyst for economic growth and prosperity for businesses, members, and the greater community. On behalf of our over 1,900 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of SB 2240.

I am honored to come before this committee, in partnership with other communities from across this great state, to respectfully ask for your support of the Base Retention Grant Program. In 2011 this program was established to maintain our state's military excellence and increase our competitive advantage, while maintaining missions at Minot Air Force Base, Grand Forks Air Force Base, and the Fargo Air National Guard Base. This program remains to be a truly collaborative effort across the state to maintain and support North Dakota's military missions and personnel.

North Dakota has always understood the importance of supporting those who serve, and we are extremely grateful for the support of previous legislative assemblies and their commitment to this program. The soldiers and airmen stationed throughout North Dakota play a critical role in our state's vibrancy. In FY 2021, the total military economic impact across the state was over a billion dollars. As it relates to our local communities, these bases have a profound impact far beyond economics.

The Air National Guard's 119th Wing has been a tremendous asset not only for our community, but for our nation. From fighting flood in the Red River Valley, flying F-16 over our nation's capital, supporting the fight against COVID-19, or executing world-class MQ-9 precision attack and reconnaissance, kinetic and non-kinetic target intelligence production and expeditionary support, the nationally recognized Happy Hooligans are always ready to serve our community, state, and country.

Whether it be strategic advocacy and awareness, advancement of personnel recruitment, or community-based programming and support, the FMWF Chamber has had the honor of supporting the Happy Hooligans in a variety of ways. Our private sector partners have continued to step up and financially support these efforts alongside the public funds and are committed to continuing to do so.

On behalf of our members, I respectfully ask the 68th North Dakota Legislative Assembly to support the appropriation of \$1.9 million to continue our mission to maintain our state's military excellence and increase our competitive advantage. Thank you to the committee for your time and consideration this morning, I would be happy to stand for any questions.

Respectfully,

Shannon Full

President/ CEO
FMWF Chamber of Commerce
Sfull@fmwfchamber.com

**North Dakota House of Representatives
House Appropriations Committee
Chairman Don Vigesaa**

By: Tom Ross
Mayor, City of Minot
tom.ross@minotnd.gov
701-857-4750

In support of SB 2240

Chairman Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee: My name is Tom Ross and I am the Mayor of the City of Minot. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on behalf of my community and in support of SB 2240.

Minot Air Force Base plays an important role in our nation's national security as home to two of the three legs of the nuclear triad. But Minot AFB is also a major partner with the City of Minot and the State of North Dakota, and is vital to the future growth and success of our community and our state.

Minot AFB brings highly skilled professionals to our state, fuels the local and regional economies, and has consistently lived up to the motto that "only the best come north." Minot is home to 26 B-52 bombers with the 5th Bomb Wing as well as 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) sites as part of the 91st Missile Wing. At the City of Minot, we have spent years investing in ourselves by funding base retention efforts through Team Minot on Task Force 21. We will continue to do so because it is in the best interest of Minot and all of North Dakota. Minot AFB's success is our success.

In preparation for the coming multi-billion-dollar Sentinel Modernization Project, the City of Minot is making major investments to prepare for the influx of additional activity, employees, and new families to our community and our state. We're conducting a housing study and community planning efforts to prepare for the thousands of new residents the Sentinel project is expected to bring to Minot. SB2240 will undoubtedly help the State Commerce Department aid our mission in making Minot a place for Air Force Base personnel to proudly call home for many years to come.

We appreciate the previous funding from the Legislature, and we hope you continue to find value in supporting Minot Air Force Base as it modernizes and grows to become an even more important piece to the security of our great nation.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. Mr. Chairman and committee members, I ask you to join us in prioritizing our friends at Minot Air Force Base by recommending a "Do Pass" on SB2240.

SB 2240 introduction

Senator Randy Burckhard, District 5, Minot

Bill to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for the base retention grant program.

Chairman Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations committee:

SB2240 is about the military support program which is an appropriation to the Department of Commerce for the communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo. The funds appropriated by the legislature are for maintaining the military missions and attracting new military missions at Minot AFB, Grand Forks AFB, and to support the ND National Guard in Fargo.

The proposed funds of \$1,900,000 must be used to support each community at the following levels for the 2023-2025 biennium: Minot \$900,000; Grand Forks \$500,000; and Fargo \$500,000. The appropriation would restore community military funding with enhanced funding to prepare North Dakota for the Sentinel modernization project near Minot. We are preparing for impact.

Mr Chairman, the annual economic impact of these 3 bases in North Dakota is \$1.16B. They employ over 14,000 people and create about 3,843 indirect jobs in ND. Individually, the annual economic impact of Minot AFB is \$607M, Grand Forks, \$270M and ND National Guard \$315M.

Nuclear deterrence. Nuclear Triad: Submarines, Bombers, and Missiles. Minot AFB is the only base with two nuclear missions.

North Dakota's impact: We **Provide**, via agricultural commodities. We **Power**, via the energy we produce and We **Protect** via our military mite.

The impact of this DOD modernization project: \$3.2B, 2500-3000 workers.

The importance of a state of the art nuclear deterrent: its the best deterrent to a nuclear war. the analogy to a parachute, if you don't have one when you need one, you'll never need one again. We often compare it to a pizza delivery, "from the warhead to the forehead in 30 minutes or less or the next ones free".

What our adversaries are doing? China, Russia, Iraq, North Korea

This base retention grant program funding will support: **Advocacy & awareness** of the Sentinel modernization project.

The question asked is Why Now Mr Chairman?

The communities of Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo have raised funds privately and have support for the military efforts in each community, but with two consecutive legislative sessions without funding the additional challenges facing each community there is a need to restore military funding, with enhanced funding, to prepare ND for the Sentinel modernization project.

Mr Chairman and members of the House Appropriations committee, there was no one opposed to this

bill and it received a 16-0 "Do Pass" in the Senate Appropriations committee. I would ask for your favorable consideration and would stand for any questions you might have.

This request from the general fund in the state treasury would appropriate \$1,900,000 to the department of commerce for the purpose of providing base retention grant funding to communities with an air force base or air national guard facilities (Minot AFB, Grand Forks AFB and the North Dakota National Guard). Of the funding appropriated, \$900,000 is to be distributed to eligible organizations in Minot and \$1,000,000 is to be distributed equally to eligible organizations in Grand Forks and Fargo. These three bases have a \$1.2B annual impact in the state of North Dakota. (These communities raise funds privately and the City of Minot has provided funding to support their work, but the last two legislative sessions did not provide any funding, and additional efforts are needed to prepare the State of N.D for the largest Department of Defense modernization project, called the GBSD missile system, Sentinel)



International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 82

AFL-CIO

Affiliated Locals, 61 - 106 - 386 - 681 - 880 - 1324 - 1922 - 1962 - 2002

Senate Bill No. 2240

House Appropriations Committee, Honorable Don Vigesaa, Chair

IN SUPPORT

Jeff Stark, Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 82

April 4, 2023

Chair Vigesaa and House Appropriations Committee members –

I am Jeff Stark, Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer for the International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 82. On behalf of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT), I am offering our support for Senate Bill 2240, to help maintain – and increase – military strength in North Dakota.

The International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 82 provides a voice for almost 3,000 workers in the finishing trades across Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and western Wisconsin. Our members are trained in a variety of industry needs, including industrial and commercial painting, drywall finishing, glazing, glass work, sign installation, convention workers, silk screen paint making and embroidery.

We are very proud of the many members of the building trades who are veterans, or who are currently serving in the National Guard and Reserves. However, our support for SB 2240 is not a union or non-union matter; it is about protecting the Armed Forces assets currently located in North Dakota. The Air Forces Bases in Minot and Grand Forks, and the Air National Guard base in Fargo play a major role in protecting our citizens from hostile foreign actors. Even more importantly, the facilities provide good-paying jobs for thousands of full and part-time members of the military. Add to these positions the additional thousands of workers employed in the communities directly due to the presences of the bases, and you quickly realize the fiscal impact in the hundreds of millions of dollars that are gained by the state.

SB 2240 asks for a one-time appropriation of \$1.9 million to help retain the three in-state facilities, along with getting ready for an expanded missile mission in Minot later in the decade. Of the \$1.9 million amount, \$900,000 is to be distributed to Minot, and \$500,000 each to Grand Forks and Fargo. While this is a significant amount of funds from the general fund, the return on investment by keeping – and expanding – our bases will pay dividends in many multiples over the next few years.

Our members are looking for a commitment to the citizens who place their lives on the line to defend our freedoms. Your support of SB 2240 provides that commitment. By using the one-time funding to support our military installations, you are creating a legacy of economic growth for generations to come, for our members and all North Dakotans.

Chair Vigesaa and members of the House Appropriations Committee, we applaud your hard work this session, and respectfully ask for your support of SB 2240, so it can pass the full House of Representatives and go as quickly as possible to Governor Burgum so he can sign it into law.

Thank you for your consideration.

23.0884.01001
 Title.
 Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
 Representative Vigesaa
 April 5, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2240

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$1,900,000" with "\$1,150,000"

Page 1, line 10, replace "\$900,000" with "\$650,000"

Page 1, line 11, replace "\$1,000,000" with "\$500,000"

Re-number accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2240 - Department of Commerce - House Action

	Base Budget	Senate Version	House Changes	House Version
Base retention grants		\$1,900,000	(\$750,000)	\$1,150,000
Total all funds	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$750,000)	\$1,150,000
Less estimated income	0	0	0	0
General fund	\$0	\$1,900,000	(\$750,000)	\$1,150,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Department 601 - Department of Commerce - Detail of House Changes

	Adjusts Grant Funding ¹	Total House Changes
Base retention grants	(\$750,000)	(\$750,000)
Total all funds	(\$750,000)	(\$750,000)
Less estimated income	0	0
General fund	(\$750,000)	(\$750,000)
FTE	0.00	0.00

¹ Funding for base retention grants is reduced by \$750,000, from \$1,900,000 to \$1,150,000 from the general fund.



MINOT AIR FORCE BASE

IMPACT, MISSION, AND SUPPORT FROM TASK FORCE 21



2

LEGS OF THE NUCLEAR TRIAD

\$607M

ECONOMIC IMPACT TO MINOT AREA
FY 2021

47

2022 STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS BY TASK FORCE 21

Minot Air Force Base (MAFB) is **the only dual-wing nuclear-capable base in the nation**, hosting two legs of the nuclear triad.

- The **5th Bomb Wing** operates twenty-six B-52 Stratofortress aircraft. Only two Air Force Bases across the United States house the B-52 aircraft.
- The **91st Missile Wing** operates 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) sites. Only three Air Force Bases across the U.S. house ICBM missiles.

The critical missions of Minot Air Force Base also lead to significant financial impact on the surrounding region. In FY 2021, MAFB generated **\$607 million in economic impact** on the Minot area — more than half of the total impact of military installations across North Dakota (\$1.16 billion).



Task Force 21 (TF-21) is an activity of the Minot Area Chamber EDC that educates the local community, North Dakota officials, members of Congress, and the public on national security issues — particularly those that affect Minot Air Force Base, the U.S. Air Force, and our nuclear deterrent.

TF-21's volunteer members take part in dozens of strategic engagements each year to accomplish its mission. And with **billions of dollars' worth of modernizations planned** for the bombers, missiles, and weapons systems of MAFB, TF-21's efforts are more critical than ever.