

FMWF Chamber Support for HB 1382

March 27th, 2023

Chair Sorvaag and members of the Senate Appropriations Education and Environment Division,

For the record, my name is Katherine Grindberg, and I have the pleasure of serving as the 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 House Bill 1382.

Every state across the United States is competing to attract, develop, and retain workforce, hoping to fill thousands of open jobs. In order for our state to effectively compete on a global scale for workforce, both the public and private sectors must identify innovative and multi-pronged solutions to address this crisis. Creative solutions, such as this program, establish a career pathway for our current and future workforce. Apprenticeships are incredible opportunities for individuals to receive invaluable hands-on learning experiences that foster skill development. The Chamber fully supports the extension of the statewide apprenticeship program, furthering workforce development across our state.

On behalf of our members, I would like to thank the committee for their time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Katherine Grindberg

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