



To: North Dakota House of Representatives

Re: House Bill 1431

Date: 2/1/2021

We are submitting this letter in support of passing **House Bill 1431, the \$800 million bonding bill**. As a long standing, successful North Dakota business, we see first-hand the need for the key projects expected to get funding from this bill.

As a business servicing other businesses in our region, we know the critical need for stronger workforce development initiatives. Supporting the **Career Workforce Academy** will ensure our ability to foster a healthy business environment that can help us attract and maintain a healthy business environment for diverse industries. It will also help us provide additional opportunities to educate in new and innovative ways.

The **FM Diversion Project** continues to be a priority for many local business leaders. We need to continue moving this project forward in the most efficient ways possible. The bonding bill eliminates short-term borrowing, reducing the burden on taxpayers by \$20 million. Because the project has had many starts and stops, the general public may not understand how critical the diversion project is to the community. This bill will keep the project moving and construction on schedule.

Research in agriculture is a bright spot for North Dakota. Staying competitive means we must support projects like **NDSU Ag Productions Development Center** (Harris Hall and The Meats Lab). We are proud of our agriculture roots and in order for us to advance and support broader understanding, investing in land grant university, NDSU, is logical and smart. This will help NDSU maintain it's status and reputation as an internationally recognized research institute.

On behalf of RR46 and Flint Group, we implore you to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Roger Reiersen

Chairman of the Board, RR46

Jodi Duncan

President, Flint Group