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SHERIFF ANDY SCHNEIDER

To: House Education Committee Members
From: Sheriff Andy Schneider
Date: January 26th, 2021
RE: HB 1404

Dear Education Committee Members,

My name is Andy Schneider, and I have the privilege and honor of being the Sheriff in Grand Forks County. I am providing testimony today in favor of HB 1404.

- Every law enforcement agency operates on a specific budget set by their respective City, County, or the State.
- When budget cuts are made, typically the agency training budget is the target for reduction of line items.
- Officers gain a large amount of knowledge by doing the job.
- Officers gain a substantial amount of knowledge by attending training or collegiate-level classes.
- Some officers have already received a collegiate or technical education and are working on paying back their debt.
- Some officers are interested or attempting to re-enroll in college but are unable to due to the financial burden created.
- Communities only benefit with having their law enforcement officers educated at a higher level.
 - Agencies also benefit in several areas:
 - Increased level of knowledge for potential supervisors/agency leaders
 - Increase in expediency of accurate and grammatically correct report writing
 - Saves taxpayer dollars by not paying OT for completing reports
 - Decrease in citizen complaints due to better decision making
- Enacting HB 1404 will also help with recruitment and retention in ND Law Enforcement agencies.

Thank you for considering HB 1404, and thank you for your do-pass recommendation. The citizens of North Dakota and the law enforcement officers that serve them will both be appreciative of your affirmation. I sincerely thank you for your time and consideration today. I am available at any time of day to further discuss this important bill with any and all of you.

Andy Schneider
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