

Chairman Larson and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide my in favor testimony on 1450. My name is Timothy Swanson and I am a resident of Crosby, North Dakota where I serve my city and county as a full time Critical Care Paramedic.

In March of 2015 just months before my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, I consumed alcohol and subsequently received a Minor in Consumption. I broke the law, did not contest the charge, and paid my dues to the court and society.

I have held a class 2 concealed weapons license since before I was charged with Minor in Consumption, I have purchased firearms, and I consistently exercise my right to carry a firearm. I continue to be a law-abiding citizen.

The class 1 concealed weapons license is functionally no different than the class 2 – I can carry the same weapons in the same places within North Dakota, I just do not have the same reciprocity. There is no reason someone with an alcohol offense who otherwise is a law-abiding citizen should be prevented from receiving a class 1 concealed weapons license if that criminal history does not preclude them from carrying in a reciprocal state.

Thank you,

Timothy Swanson