



Tuesday, February 18th, 2025

Chairman Hawj and Members of the Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee,

My name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our over 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in support of S.F. 907.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. Moorhead is the fastest-growing community outside of the Twin Cities metro due to secondary migration and increasing immigrant populations. Over 56 languages are spoken in the local school district and 6.7% of our local population is foreign-born. Establishing the Moorhead Cultural Mall (MCM) offers our over 30 immigrant and BIPOC-owned businesses a vital hub designed to support entrepreneurship, economic development, and cultural inclusion. Estimates suggest this space will generate over 100+ jobs in retail, food services, and cultural industries. The project will provide affordable retail spaces, a marketplace for diverse small businesses, and a welcoming venue for cultural events, education, and community engagement. This initiative will strengthen the local economy, create jobs, and provide culturally relevant services that reflect the needs of Moorhead's growing and diverse population.

Economic diversity is expanding, but access to culturally specific business spaces remains limited. The Moorhead Cultural Mall will bridge these gaps, ensuring that Moorhead's economic landscape is equitable and inclusive. For this reason, we respectfully urge the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your commitment to Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Cale Dunwoody
Vice President of Public Policy
Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce