



**Tom Brinkman Jr.**

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**Sponsor Testimony for HB 28**

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Good morning Chairman Smith, Vice-Chair Ryan and Ranking Member Cera. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 28, the Industrial Commission Budget, as it has been re-referred from Insurance Committee.

I am happy to inform you that this budget proposal is 1.3% less than the appropriation from the IC's previous adjusted biennial budget. That is approximately a \$1.4 million decrease. As I am sure you all know, a cheaper budget is always a win for me.

The Insurance Committee passed the IC budget without any amendments. It is only a two-page bill, so reviewing and approving it was a relatively quick and easy process. I trust it will be a nice break for your committee in the midst of the GRF budget.

Rather than speak at length to the details myself, I will leave that responsibility in the capable hands of the Industrial Commission. They informed the Insurance Committee about their various endeavors to increase efficiency. Most notably, they have been effective in cutting staffing costs while still enjoying high levels of compliance with statutory hearing order time frames. They have even managed to achieve this without resorting to layoffs.

That being said, I am happy to recommend the passage of the IC budget, HB 28. Thank you for your time today. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.