



# Upper Missouri District Health Unit

*"Your Public Health Professionals"*

**DIVIDE COUNTY**  
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**MCKENZIE COUNTY**  
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109 W 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
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**MOUNTRAIL COUNTY**  
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Stanley, ND 58784  
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**WILLIAMS COUNTY**  
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## Senate Bill 2024

ND Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control Policy Budget

1:30 p.m., January 11, 2017, Senate Appropriations

Good Afternoon, Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. I am Jayayne Oylo, Executive Officer of Upper Missouri District Health Unit, which provides services in Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail and Williams Counties.

The track record of the Center is impressive. You have heard testimony in regard to the substantial decrease in tobacco use across our state due to the single-focused approach using voter approved tobacco settlement funds. These are not just numbers or percentages but our fellow community members, friends and family who were finally able quit using tobacco or they are the children who will never start.

What you may not have heard or seen is the track record of those who work at the Center in partnership with local public health. For example, when Upper Missouri District Health Unit employees are asked to provide tobacco prevention education as part of an oilfield employee safety meeting at 6:30 in the morning or to provide public health expertise during an evening city commission meeting in regard to licensing e-cigarette businesses, the Center staff are there to help. The Center employees start early in the morning and often work late into the evening and weekends. The dedication from the Center and local public health creates the results we have seen and what makes North Dakota stand out as a model for the nation.

Looking at the track record of documented results, leadership from the Center, the dedication of public health professionals and the decision of North Dakota voters to have a fully funded separate agency, the Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control Policy must remain fully funded. It is about the health of our neighbors, friends and families. These are the people who voted to create the Center. These are the people who ask us to protect them from tobacco harms. Please help us to continue making critical tobacco-prevention gains. Vote in support of SB 2024.

Sincerely

Jayayne Oylo  
Executive Officer  
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*"It takes safe, healthy cities with vibrant, walkable main streets in downtowns to attract and retain a skilled workforce". Governor Burgum. We too want safe, healthy communities.*