

McKENZIE COUNTY

★ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ★

April 4, 2025

Chairman Vigesaa, Vice Chairman Kempenich, and Members of the House Appropriations Committee:

Thank you for your work and for the opportunity to provide input on SB2225. Please consider amending the bill to include a lookback provision for communities that have already invested in shovel-ready lots and make the funding award contingent on actual housing construction. To ensure that a variety of situations can still be accounted for, caps could be put in place for the amount of funding a community can utilize.

Many communities across North Dakota—including in McKenzie County—already have shovel-ready lots that remain undeveloped. **If this program only encourages the creation of more shovel-ready lots, we risk investing in infrastructure without seeing new homes built. This would fall short of the program's intent and the state's need for additional housing inventory.**

Infrastructure is important, but it's only one piece of the puzzle. To truly meet our state's housing needs, we must ensure this program leads to new homes.

Also, on page 1 line 20, I believe there needs to be a typo corrected from *mediation* to *remediation*.

Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel Stenberg
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