

Testimony in Support of HB 1575

March 11, 2025

Chairman Weber, Vice Chairman Rummel, members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee,

My name is Matt Voltz, and I am the Finance Director for the City of Horace. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1575.

It's evident that reform and relief is imperative this session. Horace is a unique city in North Dakota in that we are growing at a rapid pace, projected to grow around 400% from 2020 levels to 2030.

HB 1575 addresses the reform portion of this objective, and it's one that we can support. It places a 3% cap on increased valuation each year, which will limit the amount of property tax that could be levied. Residents will be able to rest assured that they won't be hit with a sudden 15% increase in valuation, while local control is maintained by the governing bodies our residents elect.

Each year at our Tax Equalization Meeting, the Horace City Council expresses concern about the increases in valuation. This bill addresses those concerns with the proposed cap. Additionally, this helps all property owners, especially our agricultural landowners, with lowering the taxable assessed values on a percentage basis, which provides the relief.

To make the relief portion even stronger and widespread, we encourage you to consider including the relief efforts introduced in HB 1176, the primary residence credit that is proposed to begin this biennium at \$1,450.

Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt Voltz

Finance Director

Horace ND