



521 E. Main Ave. Suite 250, Bismarck, N.D. 58501  
(P) 701.255.6240 (TF) 1.888.255.6240 (F) 701.255.1904  
[www.cawsnorthdakota.org](http://www.cawsnorthdakota.org)  
[facebook.com/CAWSNorthDakota](https://facebook.com/CAWSNorthDakota) • [Twitter @CAWSNorthDakota](https://twitter.com/CAWSNorthDakota)

## Testimony

### House Bill 1497 — Finance and Taxation

2/2/2021

Good morning Chairman Headland, and members of the committee. My name is Tara Lea Muhlhauser, Executive Director of CAWS North Dakota (ND) (Lobbyist # 1035). I am in favor of this bill.

CAWS ND is a coalition of programs in the state providing services for victims and survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking. I represent the 20 programs across the state of North Dakota. Nine programs in North Dakota provide Shelter services in their communities. All of our programs are 501(c)(3) organizations.

The opportunity to work with this amendment in the North Dakota Century Code relating to charitable income tax credit for contributions will provide our programs an economic boost as they work with community donors. In our current environment, programs are struggling for resources because of the numbers they are serving, particularly in our shelter programs. They have had shortages of PPE, food, bed space, and unexpected costs for motel stays for survivors and victims and their families when the shelters are full. Having an additional source of dollars for our programs is essential to keep these needed programs in place in our communities serving children, women, and men across the state.

Please extend your support to 1497. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.