## <u>SB 2139 – Testimony by Dustin Gawrylow (Lobbyist #266) North Dakota Watchdog Network</u>

SB 2139 creates yet another tax exemption program that will allow cities to take more property tax producing properties off the book as a means of subsidizing more development/redevelopment.

This bill would create Neighborhood Zones, which would be added to and mimic the existing Renaissance Zone program, TIF Districts, PILOTs, and whatever ad hoc exemption program local governments can come up with.

We oppose adding to the tax exempt power of local government. If property taxes are such an obstacle to development, we should be addressing that root problem directly with property tax reform.

I urge a DO NOT PASS on SB 2139