



February 4, 2021
Senate Political Subdivisions
Sen. Burckhard, Chairman
SB 2139

Good morning Chairman Burckhard and members of the Committee. For the record, Blake Crosby, Executive Director, North Dakota League of Cities.

Core neighborhoods have always been, and continue to be, a critical piece of infrastructure and culture in North Dakota cities. Unfortunately, as cities have spread out, these neighborhoods have been neglected and too many homes have fallen into disrepair. The bill before you is a concept that would revitalize those homes and could add to the city's stock of affordable housing.

This bill allows for a partnership of public and private funds from political subdivisions and private investment with an incentive to restore homes in the core neighborhoods. We have discussed the bill on our weekly updates and the responses have been favorable. Cities would like to be able to give this a try.

The bills sponsor and Mr. Grindberg have explained the bill in detail and answered your questions, so I will not take any more of your time other than to say we support SB 2139. It is a good concept and a good bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully ask for a DO-PASS on SB 2139. I will try to answer any questions.