

HOUSE BILL NO. 1496

Introduced by

Representatives Mitskog, Boschee, Mock, Nelson

Senator Vedaa

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for rural workforce
2 housing grants.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - RURAL**
5 **WORKFORCE HOUSING GRANTS - ONE-TIME FUNDING.**

- 6 1. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not
7 otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$20,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be
8 necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of rural workforce housing
9 grants, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The
10 funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.
- 11 2. The department of commerce shall develop guidelines for the grants, including
12 eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and reporting requirements.
- 13 3. Grants may be awarded to cities with a population of fewer than 5,000 people. Grant
14 funding may be used for the following:
- 15 a. To conduct a housing study in the city to identify workforce housing needs,
16 blighted property, and vacant lots within the city;
- 17 b. To purchase blighted properties or vacant lots;
- 18 c. To remove hazards or structures from blighted properties or vacant lots; and
- 19 d. To provide up to \$10,000 per business for repairs or improvements if the
20 business is located in a mixed-use property that will be used for rural workforce
21 housing.