



EPIC Companies

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March 3, 2023

Chairman Hetland, Vice Chair Steiner and members of the House Finance and Taxation Committee:

For the record, my name is Todd Berning, and I am the President of EPIC Companies. EPIC Companies is an investment, development, and management firm based out of West Fargo, Bismarck and Minot, ND. We take underutilized spaces and construct mixed-use buildings that enhance communities through innovative development. Today, on behalf of our 85 employees, I offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 2391.

Key provisions under this bill like the creation of two additional 3 Block Renaissance Satellite Zones, and increasing the term from 5 to 8 years for the income and property tax exemptions would be very beneficial. Many cities have other areas of their community that could use the redevelopment tool that are just as important as the core downtowns. Also, allowing communities to re-enter the program after 30 years would be beneficial to allow continued support in economic development activities. We support strategic efforts like the proposed Renaissance Zone Bill 2391, which helps strengthen our communities and keep them vibrant. On behalf of our members, I would like to thank the committee for their time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Berning, President

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