

To advocate for the success of our members in partnership with our local Associations and the National Association of REALTORS®

March 6, 2023 House Finance and Tax Committee House Concurrent Resolution No. 3024

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Finance and Tax Committee,

My name is Greg Larson and today I'm representing the North Dakota Association of REALTORS® (NDAR). We are a professional organization representing over 2,200 licensed REALTORS® across North Dakota. We also are the primary organization that advocates for the rights of property owners in our state.

The North Dakota Association of REALTORS® is strongly opposed to portions of House Concurrent Resolution No. 3024. While we in no way are against the right of the people of North Dakota being allowed to make a decision pertaining to Property Taxes we strongly object to the imposition of an additional tax that discriminates against those entities who are engaging in real estate transactions. In that regard the idea of establishing a transfer tax on the sale real property is not a reasonable method to offset the elimination of property taxes.

In those states where transfer taxes exist, they prove to be a penalty on those individuals and businesses who are selling real property. During the 2016 election cycle, the NDAR along with a coalition of like-minded organizations supported and worked for the passage of Measure 2 which was a concurrent resolution sponsored by Representative Scott Louser and put on the ballot by the North Dakota Legislature. That Measure passed overwhelmingly, and the constitution was amended. The people said transfer taxes are a bad idea. It seems contrary to the will of the people that now just 7 years later this same body should now want to put this on the people of North Dakota.

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Finance and Tax Committee, the North Dakota Association of Realtors respectfully requests that the entire Section 5. Amendment 27 of this bill on page 5 lines 5 through 9 be stricken from Resolution No. 3024.

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