

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Energy & Natural Resources Committee, my name is Andrea Pfennig with the Greater North Dakota Chamber. GNDC is North Dakota's largest statewide business advocacy organization, with membership represented by small and large businesses, local chambers, and trade and industry associations across the state. We stand in **opposition** of House Bill 1384.

Comprehensive infrastructure, whether it is transportation, energy, water, or connectivity is critical to the economic success of North Dakota. Reliable infrastructure networks expand markets by allowing North Dakota businesses to sell products across the state, to other states, and internationally.

Our members support a business-friendly regulatory environment that is consistent and further promotes investment in infrastructure. There are already many hurdles at the federal level that hinder infrastructure development. Our concern is that HB 1384 will create a roadblock at the state level by incentivizing property owners to forego negotiations with developers in order to receive a 33% increase on the assessment.

We urge a Do Not Pass recommendation on HB 1384.