

Testimony in Support of Engrossed House Bill 1211  
March 14, 2023  
Senate Finance and Taxation Committee  
Bill Wocken on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities

Good Morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee. For the record. My name is Bill Wocken, appearing on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities in support of Engrossed House Bill 1211.

This bill seeks to increase the income limits for the homestead property tax credit. It also increases the maximum taxable value of each individual income level category. This tax credit is widely utilized by persons 65 years of age or those of any age who are totally and permanently disabled to reduce property taxes on the homestead in which they live.

The adjustment of the income level for applicants who fall into various categories of valuation reduction occurs periodically when the Legislature meets. The process can become a bit cumbersome. HB 1211 has a provision on lines 21-28, Page 2 that utilizes the Midwest region Consumer Price Index to automatically adjust these categories for future years.

On lines 9-12, Page 3, the bill eliminates a current provision in the law that disqualifies any applicant with assets in excess of \$500,000. The League of Cities expresses no opinion on this change.

The North Dakota League of Cities respectfully requests a Do Pass recommendation on this bill. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have.