

Dear Chairwoman and Senators:

My name is Kerry Israel and i am here today to provide testimony in regards to Senate Bill No. 2152.

As the Administrator/Operator of the Sanctuary Sober Living Home for women based out of Minot, ND there are parts of this BILL that are of great concern to me. Specifically the mention of a third-party, the national alliance for recovery residences. To express support of one particular third-party that does not provide services in North Dakota would be a great disservice to the North Dakota sober living community. Especially when such services are already being provided by the established organization-National Sober Living Association which has been a presence in this particular community for last 7+ years. The Sanctuary Sober Living for Women currently is a member of the National Sober Living Association, which I will from here on refer to as NSLA.

As a member of NSLA we are privi to the following benefits:

- Mentorship: one on one or as a group via phone, email or zoom with a live person
- networking opportunities with other sober living operators
- referrals: listed on the NSLA website as well as to potential residents
- mandatory free regional training/workshops, the opportunity to attend an annual NSLA conference
- homes that are awarded certification must meet NSLA quality standards, yearly inspections, a Code of Ethics that must be signed by all member operators and staff in regards to their conduct toward eachother and residents
- member homes stand out from non-member homes not governed by any set standard of quality. Member sober living homes get referrals from legal jurisdictions and other service providers that recognize the structure, stability, safety of an NSLA certified home.
- access to affordable Sober Living Insurance, as well as reduced prices on drug testing supplies
- exposure through advertising and promotion on the up to date NSLA Facebook page and website, ads placed in recovery publications and recovery event programs
- advocacy through monitoring political and legal issues that affect sober living homes and provides an informed advocate on sober living and recovery issues.