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**Habitat
for Humanity®**
Northern Lights

*Building
houses,
building
hope*

January 19, 2023

To: ND Senate State and Local Government Committee

From: Roxy Volk, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights

Re: Support of SB No. 2207, Contractor Licensing Exceptions

Hello ND legislators,

I'm writing on behalf of Minot's Habitat for Humanity to ask for your support of Senate Bill No. 2207 relating to contractor licensing exceptions.

As you may or may not know, non-profits are required to hire a General Contractor or must have a contractor license to build affordable houses in our state. Being a small Habitat affiliate with a small budget, it's difficult to incur this added expense. Even if we apply and receive a ND contractor license, the annual renewal expense is unaffordable when we only build or rehabilitate a house every few years when our budget allows.

We hope you will support this bipartisan bill with the common goal of helping solve the problem of providing simple, decent and affordable housing for low-income families in North Dakota. Please know the passage of this bill doesn't change our requirements to comply with all building codes, we still enjoy numerous visits from multiple local building inspectors!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at minot.habitat@hotmail.com or Jim in Fargo at jim@lakeagassizhabitat.org or Marisa in Grand Forks at marisa@rrvhabitat.com.

We thank you in advance!

Roxy Volk

Roxy Volk
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We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.