

**House Appropriations – Government Operations Division Public
Hearing
65th LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
January 21, 2025
SB 2014**

Chairman Monson, and members of the Committee my name is Tom Alexander, and I am the Executive Director of the Minot Housing Authority (MHA). I am writing in support of SB 2014 Section 6, #2 to transfer the sum of \$25,000,000 from the strategic investment and improvement fund to the housing incentive fund.

In Minot we have over 500 households on a waiting list for housing assistance and the list continues to grow daily. At the same time that the demand for affordable housing still exist. For example, our average Housing Assistance Payments per landlord is currently \$586 per month compared to \$290 in 2008.

MHA was approached by Beyond Shelter, a nonprofit affordable housing developer in Fargo in 2012/13 to partner on a variety of projects to create affordable housing in Minot area. To date, this partnership has completed a two phase 64 unit affordable town home project called Washington Town Homes (SE Minot), a 42 unit called Fieldcrest (NE Minot), a 55 and older apartment setting with 40 units called Cooks Court (SE – just north of Kmart), a 40 unit town home style called The Burlington Willows (Burlington, ND), a 35 unit apartment called Sunset Ridge (NW Minot) and Souris Heights (NW Minot), a 55 and older property.

Since 2012/13 BSI and MHA have created 275 affordable units for essential workers, seniors and low income. It is my hope that this partnership continues to grow to ensure that future and maintain affordable housing

units for the community of Minot. Having said that, the Housing Incentive Fund has been very instrumental in putting the funding together to ensure that the rents remain affordable for the above mentioned projects.

In my opinion, the Housing Incentive Fund has been the most successful program developed that has created affordable housing units all over the state of North Dakota.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. My contact information is,

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