

**Testimony in Support of HB 1362**

**House Industry, Business and Labor Committee**

**February 4, 2025**

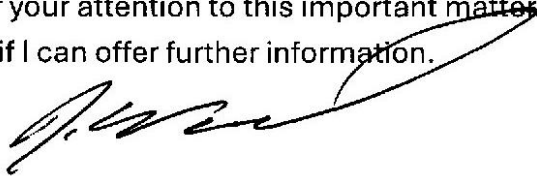
**Chairman Warrey and Members of the Committee,**

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 1362 which is currently referred to the Industry, Business and Labor Committee. As a Building Official in northwest North Dakota, I have witnessed firsthand the urgent need for the program proposed in this bill, and I believe that its passage will connect smaller residential home builders to the funding they need to start and finish more new homes.

I urge you and your colleagues to vote in favor of HB 1362. Your support will be instrumental in creating a key funding mechanism that will increase available housing in North Dakota, giving skilled workers and their families a place to call home and a reason to set down roots.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please contact me if you have any questions or if I can offer further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Ward', written over a white oval-shaped background.

John Ward

Building Inspector

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