



Native Community Development, Inc. dba NATIVE, Inc. serving urban Indians and other disproportionate populations in North Dakota.

Bismarck Office
2403 East Thayer Avenue
Bismarck ND 58501
Tel: (701) 595-5181
Website: www.ndnadc.org

Fargo Office
115 University Dr. North, Ste. 102
Fargo, ND 58102
Tel: (701) 412-2735
Website: www.ndnadc.org



February 5, 2025

HB 1549
House Judiciary

Mr. Chairman Klemin and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lorraine Davis, Founder, and CEO of NATIVE, Inc. serving the urban Indian population and other disproportionate populations represented in the prison recidivism rates of North Dakota. NATIVE, Inc. is a partner with the Behavioral Health Division under the ND DHHS as a community service provider of the Free from Recovery since its inception in 2017 serving in the Bismarck and Fargo areas. NATIVE, Inc. provides culturally responsive services and programs. I created our organization to better meet the cultural needs of Native Americans living in urban areas of ND.

I am here today in **support of HB 1549, the new correctional facility grant facility grant program if amended to include** committee representation with two Tribal (also known as Native American) representatives: (1) Tribal service provider on a reservation (2) a Native American community-based service provider with at least five years of experience serving Native Americans re-entering off-reservation communities. Due to the disproportionate representation of Native Americans in prison and going in and out of prison, it is critical for this committee to understand the circumstances, the dynamics, the culture and values of Native Americans in these two differing geographies. This will give this committee keen insight to the varying challenges that unique to the Native American populations.

I support the Native American re-entry program if amended to include (1) Tribal service provider on a reservation (2) a Native American community-based service provider with at least five years of experience serving Native Americans re-entering off-reservation communities.

I support the Housing Taskforce if amended to include (1) Tribal Housing Authority Director or designated representative of the five Tribes of ND and (2) a Native American homeless service provider with at least five years of experience serving Native Americans re-entering off-reservation communities.

I support Criminal justice data collection as written.

Thank you for your time and commitment toward addressing human service needs within ND. I stand for any questions.