



January 27, 2025

Senate Appropriations - Government Operations Division

SB 2225

Senator Terry Wanzek, Chair

For the record, my name is Kory Peterson. I am appearing before you today on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities, in support of SB 2225. Prior to working with the North Dakota League of Cities, I was the Mayor of Horace for 8 years, from June 2016 to July 2024.

The League of Cities is supportive of measures to help with the housing crisis within the state. This bill will provide the ability of municipalities receiving matching monies to help facilitate housing developments within their jurisdiction.

For many cities within the state, the further they are away from a larger metropolitan area, the harder it is for them to compete for building resources. This would include getting engineering, contractor, and developer support into these areas.

This funding opportunity would give those cities looking to create a housing development some additional financial resources to be able to compete for these resources. With additional housing in municipalities, this will positively impact their quality of life and economic situation.

A concern for the smaller cities (under 500) competing for this additional funding for housing, they may have a difficult time coming up with a 1 to 1 match on funding. Because of this threshold, they may feel disenfranchised with this approach and won't even try this avenue for funding because of the lack of a match.

The League appreciates the efforts of lawmakers to help create more housing opportunities in the state and recommends a Do Pass on this bill.

Thank you.

Kory Peterson