



Great Plains Housing Authority

Serving Dickey, Eddy, Foster, Logan, Sargent, Stutsman, and Wells Counties

To: Senate Industry and Business Public Hearing

From: David Klein, GPHA Executive Director

Date: January 20, 2025

Re: SB 2200

Great Plains Housing Authority (GPHA) serves seven counties in North Dakota with federal rental assistance. Our agency collaborates frequently with governmental agencies, service providers, health care providers, churches, cities, developers, farming organizations, and veterans service offices and others to help individuals access services quickly and identify any critical needs.

FirstLink is a constant provider of information and referral services. FirstLink is that immediate contact for individuals thinking about suicide or needing behavioral health services. There are countless calls that FirstLink answers de-escalating situations and providing hope to individuals, while giving law enforcement and others time to respond and react appropriately.

Communities, law enforcement, schools, and others are struggling to help those in crisis. FirstLink CAN provide that immediate bridge to help in these urgent situations.

FirstLink has extremely high standards in working with individuals. The high standard includes being the ONLY agency constantly updating service and agency databases through outreach.

GPHA supports SB 2200 funding FirstLink and expanding services.

Mailing address: 300 2nd Ave NE – Suite 200, Jamestown, ND 58401

Toll free: 800-340-4537

Web: www.greatplainsha.com

Phone: 701-252-1098

Email: office@greatplainsha.com

Fax: 701-252-7735

Locations: Carrington, Ellendale, Jamestown, New Rockford

