

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Testimony on Senate Bill 2384

February 5th, 2025

Submitted by Janelle Mitzel, Development Homes, Inc.

Madam Chairperson Larson & Committee Members,

Thank you for your consideration of a **Do Not Pass** on SB 2384. This bill allows for the international gaming manufacturers to sell electronic products directly to the ND charities.

Development Homes, Inc:

- DHI is a non-profit organization in Grand Forks providing community-based support services to persons with disabilities from all over ND.
- DHI has residential services including seven group homes, two duplex facilities, a multi-unit autism living center, two transitional living centers and multiple independent living settings.
- DHI provides vocational services including job training and placement, and family services including respite care and in-home support.
- DHI serves approximately two hundred individuals from children to adults, serving through all stages of life.
- DHI is currently the 12th largest employer in Grand Forks, employing 450 to 500 people. Our economic footprint is vital to this community.

This bill essentially eliminates North Dakota gaming distributors from selling and distributing gaming electronic products. Many seem to think eliminating the distributors will lower the cost of electronics, however, we have found the ND charitable gaming distributors are working hard to keep prices competitive, while international companies want to dictate and control the entire pricing structure.

The charitable gaming organizations are concerned if the distributors are not required to sell, the limited number of manufacturers will monopolize the market with price demands and a take-it-or-leave-it strategy. International manufacturers do not care about local charities and ND; North Dakota distributors do.

This bill is funded by international companies interfering in the ND charitable gaming market. Charitable gaming distributors are local, employee local people, and reside in North Dakota.

Keep North Dakota charitable gaming local and vote **NO** on **SB 2384**.