## Senate Appropriations – Education and Environment Division 68th LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY March 9, 2023 HB 1014

Chairman Sorvaag, and members of the Committee, my name is Tom Alexander, and I am the Executive Director of the Minot Housing Authority (MHA).

MHA was approached by Beyond Shelter, a nonprofit affordable housing developer in Fargo in 2012/13 to partner on a variety of projects to create affordable housing in the Minot area. To date, this partnership has completed a two phase 64 unit affordable town home project called Washington Town Homes (SE Minot), a 42 unit property called Fieldcrest (NE Minot), a 55 and older apartment property with 40 units called Cooks Court (SE – just north of Kmart), a 40 unit town home style called The Burlington Willows (Burlington, ND), a 35 unit property called Sunset Ridge (NW Minot) and another 55 and older apartment property with 54 units called Souris Heights (NW Minot).

Since 2012/13 BSI and MHA have created 275 affordable units in our community for essential workers, seniors, low-income persons and families. It is my hope that this partnership continues to grow in the future and maintain affordable housing units for the community of Minot. Having said that, the Housing Incentive Fund has been very instrumental in putting the funding

together to ensure that the rents remain affordable for the above-mentioned projects.

MHA fully supports House Bill 1014 as before you today with Housing Incentive Fund receiving 12.5 million. In my opinion, the Housing Incentive Fund has been a very successful program that has created affordable housing units all over the state of North Dakota. I would fully support an increase to HIF if the legislative assembly chooses to do so.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. My contact information is,

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