

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

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PER SENSE

February 5, 2025

## HB 1012 Appropriations - Human Resources Division

Mr. Chairman Nelson and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lorraine Davis, Founder and CEO of NATIVE, Inc. serving the urban Indian populations and other disproportionate populations in North Dakota. NATIVE, Inc. is a partner with the ND Behavioral Health Division as a community service provider of the Free through Recovery Program, Community Connect Program and 1915i Program serving in the Bismarck and Fargo areas. NATIVE, Inc. provides culturally responsive services and programs. I created NATIVE, Inc. to better meet the cultural needs of Native Americans living in urban areas of ND.

I am here today in support of HB 1012 with an amendment to include an urban Indian set aside to fiscally support culturally programming for participants and their families involved in the Free through Recovery, Community Connect and 1915i programs.

Due to the disproportionate representation of Native American adults in prison, Native American youth corrections and at-risk youth, and children involved in foster care and adoptions, it is critical to provide cultural and traditional healing programming amongst Native Americans living off the reservations referred to as the urban Indians within our state.

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