

Written Testimony for the
Senate Finance and Tax

March 18, 2025

Erica Johnsrud, McKenzie County Auditor/Treasurer



RE: SUPPORT for HB 1572

Good morning, Chairman Weber, and members of the Senate Finance and Tax Committee. My name is Erica Johnsrud and I have the honor of serving as the Auditor/Treasurer for McKenzie County. I stand in support of HB 1572 with the proposed amendment 25.0523.03001 that creates an interim group to determine a new property tax statement for North Dakota taxpayers.

Property tax statements – what’s on them, color vs black/white, relief information, etc. – have been topics of discussion in many legislative sessions. Invariably everyone has different opinions on what should or should not be included. Most important to me, as County Auditor/Treasurer, is that the changes being made are doable by the programmers utilized by counties, are not cost-prohibitive, and add value and clarity to the information being given to taxpayers. More information for the sake of more information isn’t always the best. A group of stakeholders, organized by the committee chairman, sitting down to discuss these topics to find workable solutions for everyone will be key to getting everyone on the same page and resulting in actual and sustainable changes to the tax statement. This was last done in 2013-2014, resulting in the current uniform tax statement, and should be done again.

Property tax reform is a difficult topic in which to please everyone and the tax statement contents are no different. I want to express my gratitude to the Legislative Assembly for all their hard work on property tax reform. I urge a **DO PASS** recommendation on HB 1572 with the proposed amendment which includes property tax statement stakeholders meeting to discuss and create a new uniform property tax statement.