



North Dakota Association of REALTORS®

To advocate for the success of our members in partnership with our local Associations and the National Association of REALTORS®

January 26, 2021

Chairman Lefor and Members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee, my name is Jill Beck and I am the CEO for the North Dakota Association of REALTORS® (NDAR). Our membership consists of more than 2,100 REALTORS® and more than 250 Business Partner members in the state of North Dakota.

We support the passage of HB 1175 and are happy to be part of the twenty-five plus organizations that have joined in the coalition.

Last spring, as the pandemic started, we did not know where our industry would head as real estate is typically a business with face-to-face contact from all aspects starting with the initial client contact with a REALTOR® to the closing table and everything in between. We were happy that real estate was able to keep moving our economy forward during this time and did not have to shut down business. State and federal guidelines were put in place (sometimes changing daily), we created some of our own guidance for our members as well as best practices. There were drive up closings for those that got to the closing table. Title workers, bankers, and REALTORS® dressed according to the weather and met their clients in the parking lot to get the properties closed, all while practicing social distancing guidelines.

While some members and consumers opted for the virtual showings and open houses through video there were still those that wanted to see the homes in person. Guidelines were put in place concerning who could be in the home, how many at a time, instructions that masks had to be worn and who could be opening and closing doors and closets. Our members were adaptable at a time when it was needed while following safety protocols.

Safety of our members and the clients they serve is a top priority. HB 1175 COVID Liability Protection bill is needed, joining thirty plus other states that have it implemented, that protects businesses from those that made (make) poor decisions and are out for frivolous lawsuits.

Thank you for your time and on behalf of our 2,200 members and our industry, we strongly urge a DO PASS on HB 1175.

Respectfully Submitted,

NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Beck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Beck, CEO

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