

**Senate Industry, Business and Labor**  
**65th LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**JANUARY 13, 2021**  
**SB 2127**

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

In Minot we have over 487 households on a waiting list for housing assistance and the list continues to grow on a daily basis. At the same time that the demand for affordable housing still exist. For example, our average Housing Assistance Payments per landlord is currently \$513 per month compared to \$290 in 2008. We are helping less people today than we were in 2008 due to the steady rent increases that have occurred in Minot.

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 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 called Fieldcrest (NE Minot), a 55 and older apartment setting with 40 units called Cooks Court (SE – just north of Kmart), a 40 unit town home style called The Burlington Willows (Burlington, ND) and a 35 unit apartment called Sunset Ridge (NW Minot).

Since 2012/13 BSI and MHA have created 221 affordable units for essential workers, seniors and low income. It is my hope that this partnership continues to grow to ensure that 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 Senate Bill 2127 as before you today. 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.

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

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