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Public Testimony
Senate Political Subdivisions
State of North Dakota

RE: HB 1222

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Hello Chairman and members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee, my name is Dana Sande and I'm a resident of the City of Grand Forks. I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and express my SUPPORT for HB 1222.

I believe HB 1222 has been submitted as a protector of personal property rights for all property owners within our great state. I firmly believe the protection provided by the bill will benefit property owners who should be granted rights based upon the longevity of their property ownership.

Allowing cities to rezone property into a different classification than its long-time use (thus making the property non-conforming) is an infringement in and of its self. However, going a step further and not allowing property owners to rebuild structures, after catastrophic events, due to the non-conformity caused by the rezoning is simply wrong. In my opinion, not allowing property owners to restore their property is a taking by the government entity which initiated the non-conformance in the first place.

For these reasons, I SUPPORT HB 1222 and urge your committee members to support this bill as well. Long-time property owners deserve the right to continue to use their property as they see fit.

My thanks for your time,

Dana Sande
Grand Forks, ND