

CARRINGTON

the central city

Monday, January, 2023

RE: Senate bill 2275

Chairman Kannianen and Members of the Finance & Taxation Committee:

For the record, I am the City Auditor in Carrington.

I am respectfully requesting you to support a **"DO PASS"** on Senate bill #2275 to eliminate the \$400 million SIFF Fund allocation placed ahead of the infrastructure "buckets" and let it fill at the end of the "buckets" stream as originally contemplated in "Operation Prairie Dog".

Operation Prairie Dog has been a vital component in planning for our current and upcoming infrastructure needs. As with most cities our size, we have more project needs than revenue generated to meet those needs. Operation Prairie Dog has allowed us to begin the process of Capital Project planning to best utilize the funding received to prioritize our most critical projects. If the infrastructure buckets were to fill before the SIFF Fund allocation, this would help cities by not delaying necessary projects and reduce the exposure and risk to inflationary costs.

Because our first allocation of Prairie Dog funding was lower than anticipated (Census estimated our population just under 2,000) we have not expended the \$125,000 received. However, with the 2020 Census our population was at 2,080 and with the greater funding received we anticipate completing either water main replacement or a sewer rehabilitation project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Gast
City Auditor