Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Kyle Thorson – Graduate School Senator

Sponsors: Cyndi Burich – Nursing School Senator; Josh Nelson – Off Campus Senator

CC: Nick Creamer - Student Body President; Alexis Hanson - Student Body Vice President; Cassie Gerhart - Student Government Advisor; Andrew Frelich – Student Government Office Manager; Dr. Cara Halgren – Dean of Students; Dr. Lori Reesor – VPSA; Michael Brown, M.D. – Grand Forks Mayor; Grand Forks City Council

Date: 10/13/2013

Re: Support for Non-Discrimination Housing Ordinance Amendment

Whereas, in 1996 the University Senate passed a Community Values Statement that is published in the UND Code of Student Life, and

Whereas, the Community Values Statement is intended to foster “an environment where all faculty, staff, and students deserve to be treated with dignity and respect”, and

Whereas, the UND Student Government constitution follows the nondiscrimination statement in the UND Code of Student Life which includes sexual orientation and gender identity, and

Whereas, the mission of UND encourages students to be “intellectually curious and creative, to commit themselves to lifelong learning and the service of others, and to share responsibility both for their own communities and for the world”, and

Whereas, UND has students that live and work on and off campus, and

Whereas, current state law does not protect students from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, and

Whereas, students need a safe place to live and work, and

Whereas, students need a North Dakota that attracts and maintains a talented workforce, and

Whereas, such a goal is aligned with the North Dakota 2020 and Beyond plan, and

Whereas, the passage of the amendments to City Code 21-0601 (and related sections) supports UND’s mission, as well as its community both on and off campus, and

Whereas, Student Senate has previously passed SR 1213-15 which supported similar state legislation.

Therefore, be it resolved that UND Student Senate, acting on behalf of the approximately 15,143 students of UND, fully support the efforts of the Grand Forks City Council to expand housing rights regarding sexual orientation and gender identity for the city of Grand Forks.
Therefore, be it furthest resolved that UND Student Government urges the Grand Forks City Council to pass the amendment to City Code 21-0601 (and related sections) to prohibit housing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Student Body President, Nick Creamer