



# City of Granite Falls

641 Prentice Street  
Granite Falls, MN 56241-1598  
Phone (320) 564-3011 FAX (320) 564-3013  
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Chairman Mariani:

I want to extend my regrets for not being able to join you in person today and also my thanks for the chance to offer my testimony in regard to House File 1042.

My name is David Smiglewski. I am the mayor of Granite Falls, a position I have held for the past 25 years.

I am writing to speak on behalf of my city and express our full support of this bill and the effort our friends at Makoce Ikikcupi are undertaking to establish traditional Dakota housing on land that they own. This property is within the two-mile limit of our city's building code enforcement zone. As such, our building inspector has the responsibility to ensure that all buildings within two-miles of city limits comply with the latest Uniform Building Code rules.

The traditional Dakota buildings that our friends are proposing to build, although more substantial in many ways than standard buildings across the state, do not meet certain criteria of the Uniform Building Code. This bill would allow an exemption for these traditional Dakota buildings to be constructed and would provide a way for our building inspector to work with these good folks to properly ensure safety while recognizing their historic and traditional ways.

The City of Granite Falls urges the committee to approve this bill as presented.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Smiglewski".

David Smiglewski

Mayor, City of Granite Falls



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Chairman Mariani:

Please consider this a written testimony of support regarding House File 1042. I support our friends at Makoce Ikkcupi to establish traditional Dakota housing on land they own. The city enforces Building Code Rules within a two-mile radius of city limits. Currently, the written rules unfortunately do not allow the construction of traditional Dakota buildings. Over the past year, I have learned a lot about these structures including safety, architecture design, and much more. With approval of this bill our building inspector will be able to work with Makoce Ikkcupi to move forward with construction ensuring safety while recognizing Dakota traditions.

I urge the committee to move forward approving this bill as presented.

Thank you!

Crystal Johnson  
City Manager