

8. Resolution on Abolishing Property Taxes – NDGOP Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS: North Dakotans do not truly own their homes as long as they are forced to pay property taxes to keep them and these taxes disproportionately affect seniors and individuals on fixed incomes; and,

WHEREAS: Property tax increases, and their existence in general, has become the #1 biggest complaint by North Dakotans as it relates to their tax burdens; and,

WHEREAS: Promises to properly address and fix issues related to property taxes made by leadership and various special interest groups while they stood in opposition to the 2012 ballot measure have not substantially reduced the property tax burden for most North Dakotans; and,

WHEREAS: Various exemptions, appraisal caps, and other proposals do little to eliminate the unnecessary burden on most families and property valuations have risen in general; and,

WHEREAS: The cost of merely collecting these taxes is a waste of millions of dollars, and only serves to provide profits for a special interest group of assessors and collectors; and,

WHEREAS: Easing the ability of young families to acquire real estate and reduce their mortgage is the most common mechanism of wealth creation for most families; and

WHEREAS: Consumption-based taxation, which exists already in our state, allows the people greater control over their tax burden and revenues already exist to “replace” property taxes and provide core constitutional services; and

WHEREAS: If business costs are reduced and made predictable by abolishing property taxes, North Dakota will be more competitive in attracting business, adding jobs, and developing our economy for the future.; and

WHEREAS: Due to massive state government revenues, abolishing property taxes can be accomplished without any loss of discretion or local control by local subdivisions, and without any cuts to existing services; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the North Dakota Republican Party supports legislative efforts to eliminate property tax entirely or in part by eliminating primary residence property tax.