



North Dakota Library Association  
*Established 1906*

## **SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT**

**February 14, 2017**

**Attention: Public Libraries in Home Rule Authority Cities**

**Contact the Legislative Assembly in opposition of HB 1361**

HB 1361 is a bill relating to limitations of property tax levies by taxing districts without voter approval. This is especially applicable to any public libraries in cities that have home rule authority, because the current bill states "Property taxes levied in dollars by a taxing district may not exceed the amount the taxing district levied in dollars in the preceding taxable year by more than three percent" and "A city or county may not supersede or modify the application of the provisions of this section under home rule authority."

This would mean that your city commission may want to approve a 3.5% increase to your levied tax dollars, but cannot due to state government oversight of what cities are doing with the property tax funding. The home rule authority was created so cities can have direct authority and the ability to make decisions at the city level on their city's funding. The ND League of Cities is opposed to this bill, as are other cities with home rule authority.

Full text of HB 1361: <http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/65-2017/documents/17-0202-05000.pdf>

### **CALL TO ACTION**

The bill has been passed by the Finance and Taxation Committee. It has not been placed on the House Floor calendar as of today. We are reaching out to NDLA members working in public libraries that are located in cities with home rule authority to request that you contact your representatives.

**Please send your emails in opposition of HB 1361 ASAP.**

Find your local representatives and contact information: <http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/65-2017/members/members-by-district>

If you don't know what district(s) your city is in: <http://www.legis.nd.gov/districts/2013-2022>.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact your NDLA Legislative Committee Co-Chairs Janet Anderson at [janet.anderson@minotnd.org](mailto:janet.anderson@minotnd.org) or Christine Kujawa at [ckujawa@bismarcklibrary.org](mailto:ckujawa@bismarcklibrary.org).