

### **NDHFA HomeWork Program Creates New Homeownership Opportunities**

Bismarck – The Industrial Commission has approved HomeWork, a new pilot program intended to create new homeownership opportunities for North Dakotans.

HomeWork enables employers to offer down payment and closing cost assistance to employees who purchase a home through North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA) programs.

“North Dakota employers can use this program to offer their employees a great new benefit, the benefit of homeownership,” said Gov. John Hoeven. “The program will also serve as an excellent tool for employee recruitment and retention and is a good fit with the state’s economic development efforts.”

“Homeownership provides a sense of belonging and commitment to a community,” said Commissioner of Agriculture Roger Johnson. “This program will encourage employees to put down roots in the communities where they work.”

“Accumulating enough cash for a down payment is the most difficult obstacle for families trying to achieve homeownership,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. “This program will allow participating employers to assist their employees with up to \$5,000 towards their down payment and closing costs.”

HomeWork assistance will be in the form of a loan at a two percent interest rate. The participating employer decides how much assistance to offer to each employee.

For more information about HomeWork or other NDHFA programs contact a participating lender, real estate agent, home builder or the Housing Finance Agency directly at (701) 328-8080, 1-800-292-8621, 1-800-366-6888 (TTY) or through the Internet at [www.ndhfa.state.nd.us](http://www.ndhfa.state.nd.us).

The Housing Finance Agency is overseen by the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Commissioner of Agriculture Roger Johnson.