News Release March 14, 2002 For Immediate Release

First-Time Homebuyer Program Purchase Price Limits Change

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Industrial Commission has adjusted the purchase price limits on previously occupied homes in eight counties for the Home Mortgage Finance Program, better known as the First-Time Homebuyer Program.

Commission members said Thursday that the action is in response to information collected by the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA) showing changes in the average home purchase prices in North Dakota.

“Although the federal government establishes purchase price limits for the ‘First-Time Homebuyer Program,’ the limits they established have not changed since 1994,” Gov. John Hoeven said. “The NDHFA is permitted to use more accurate local information, where available, for establishing the limits, and we have done so. By taking these extra steps we continue to work toward our goal of making housing more affordable for North Dakotans.”

“These new limits are based on sales during calendar year 2001,” Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson said. “Each county’s home sales data is analyzed early in the year so that the new limits are available going into spring when home purchase activity reaches its peak.”

“Although the purchase price limits are being adjusted in eight counties, the amount a person can afford to pay for a home is still determined by their income and debt structure,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

“Five counties (Burleigh, Cass, Morton, Richland and Stark) had an increase in the average sale prices during 2001 and, thus, a proposed increase in the respective acquisition cost area limit,” Pat S. Fricke, NDHFA executive director, said. “Three counties (Grand Forks, Stutsman and Ward) had a decrease in the average sales price and a similar reduction in their respective acquisition cost area limit. Other North Dakota counties acquisition cost limits will remain as provided by the federal regulation.”

Homebuyers who have not owned a home during the past three years may be eligible for the First-Time Homebuyer Program. Borrower income and home purchase price limits vary by family size and county.

For more information about the First-Time Homebuyer Program or other NDHFA programs, contact a participating lender, real estate agent, home builder or the NDHFA directly at (701) 328-8080, 1-800-292-8621, 1-800-366-6888 (TTY) or through the Internet at www.ndhfa.org.

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

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(See attached borrower income and acquisition limits for details.)

For further information: Pat Fricke (701) 328-8080

Equal Housing Opportunity
ANNUAL INCOME LIMITS (Effective February 19, 2002)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>HMFP Family Size</th>
<th>HomeKey Family Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than 3</td>
<td>3 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burleigh, Morton</td>
<td>$ 52,800</td>
<td>$ 60,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass, Mercer</td>
<td>55,900</td>
<td>64,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Forks, Pembina,</td>
<td>48,800</td>
<td>56,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ransom, Richland, Sargent</td>
<td>50,500</td>
<td>58,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other Counties</td>
<td>46,600</td>
<td>53,590</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Includes projected income from all sources for the 12 months following the date of application.

ACQUISITION COST LIMITS (Effective March 14, 2002)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>New Construction</th>
<th>Existing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Unit</td>
<td>1 Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burleigh &amp; Morton</td>
<td>$ 130,000</td>
<td>$ 96,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>95,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Forks</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>89,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>68,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stark</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>69,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>78,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stutsman</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>65,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other Counties</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>59,046</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PARTICIPATING LENDERS (As of March 14, 2002)

Lenders with multiple locations:
- Alerus Financial
- American Federal Bank
- BNC National Bank
- Bremer Bank
- Community First National Bank
- Dakota Community Bank
- Dakota West Credit Union
- F-M Mortgage Corporation
- First Community Credit Union
- First International Bank & Trust
- First National Bank of Bowbells
- First Southwest Bank
- First State Bank of Buxton
- First State Bank of Golva
- First State Bank of LaMoure
- First State Bank of Munich
- Gate City Federal Savings Bank
- Great Plains National Bank
- HomeTown Mortgage
- Kirkwood Bank & Trust Co.
- Ramsey Bank of Cando
- Security First Bank of ND
- Town & Country Credit Union
- United Community Bank of ND
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Inc.
- Western Cooperative Credit Union
- Western State Bank
- Beulah – First Security Bank West
- Bismarck – America’s Home Loans
  Bank Center First
- Bismarck (continued) – Capital Credit Union

Real Estate Mortgage Investment
St. Alexius Medical Center Credit Union
Bottineau – First National Bank & Trust Company
Cando – Country Bank USA
Carrington – Security State Bank
Cavalier – Citizens State Bank
Crosby – Farmers State Bank of Crosby
Devils Lake –
  Citizens Community Credit Union
  Ramsey National Bank & Trust
Dickinson –
  American State Bank & Trust
  Community First National Bank
Fairmount – People’s State Bank
Fargo –
  Community First National
  ND Air National Guard Credit Union
  Northland Educators Federal Credit Union
  Postal Family Federal Credit Union
  State Bank of Fargo
  United Savings Credit Union
  US Bank NA
  Valley Mortgage
Glen Ullin – Bank of Glen Ullin
Grand Forks –
  America’s Home Loans
  Community National Bank
Hamilton – Bank of Hamilton
Harvey – First State Bank of Harvey
Hatton – Farmers and Merchants Bank of Hatton
Hazen –
  Security First Bank of ND
  Union State Bank
Hettinger –
Dacotah Bank
Dakota Western State Bank
Kenmare – State Bank & Trust of Kenmare
Lakota – State Bank of Lakota
Mandan – Security First Bank of ND
Minot –
  Dacotah Bank
  First Western Bank & Trust
Minto – Bank of Minto
New Town – Lakeside State Bank
Park River – First United Bank
Powers Lake – Liberty State Bank
Rolla – Dacotah Bank
Stanley – Scandia American Bank
Strasburg – Strasburg State Bank
Tioga – Bank of Tioga
Tolna – Farmers and Merchants State Bank
Underwood – First Security Bank
Valley City –
  Farmers and Merchants Bank of Valley City
Velva – People’s State Bank
Walhalla – Walhalla State Bank
Washburn – Farmers Security Bank
Watford City – McKenzie County National Bank
Wilton – First State Bank of Wilton
Wishek – Security State Bank

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