

Re: FHLBank System at 100: Focusing on the Future

Dear Director Thompson,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the future of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines and the FHLBank System. As the nation's only state-owned financial institution, the Bank of North Dakota (BND) is aware of the pivotal role the FHLBank plays in our state and across the nation.

BND's mission is to be agile and deliver sound financial solutions that help our North Dakota customers succeed. Our partnership with the FHLBanks empowers us to meet the funding needs of our state, communities, and local financial institutions by providing access to efficient and competitive liquidity.

With access to the FHLBanks' safe and reliable liquidity, BND has been able to expand its special lending programs for businesses, especially those in need during the pandemic. FHLBanks are a critical element of the nation's financial infrastructure, and their unique business model has ensured they are here for us and our communities during all economic cycles.

Please consider our comments as you conduct your review of the FHLBank system, without the FHLBanks, BND and more importantly, the communities we serve, would not be as vibrant and prosperous as we are today.

Thank you,

*Todd Steinwand*

Todd Steinwand  
President/CEO  
Bank of North Dakota