

## Grand Valley Catholic Outreach

February 3, 2020

Rep. Matt Gray,  
200 E Colfax  
RM 307  
Denver, CO 80203  
United States

Dear Rep. Gray and Committee Members:

I write in support of HB20-1164 to clarify that Housing Authorities are exempt from development impact fees imposed by Water Conservancy Districts. As you know State Statutes already provide for this exemption by the State and all subdivisions of the State. However the Ute Water Conservation District does not recognize the validity of the existing Statutes, as the City of Grand Junction does, so our HB20-1164 seeks to clarify the existing exemption.

Anyone trying to provide affordable housing is met with additional fees that make such projects exceedingly difficult to execute. Across our state and even nationwide affordable housing is desperately needed if we are going to make any impact on the number of persons unable to afford decent housing.

Please support HB20-1164 when you meet on February 12, 2020 and do all in your power to see its passage so that the work of Housing Authorities that are trying to make a difference in the area of housing will be successful.

The Grand Junction Housing Authority has provided thousands of affordable housing units so you can see how additional water fees imposed by a water conservancy will drastically dampen its efforts.

Sincerely,

Sister Karen Bland, OSB  
Executive Director

P.S. It would be helpful if nonprofits providing affordable housing to those who are homeless also would be exempt from such fees.