

**North Dakota State Water Commission Testimony
Senate Bill 2208**

**House Agriculture Committee
Representative Dennis Johnson, Chair
March 11, 2021**

Chairman Johnson, and members of the House Agriculture Committee – I am Aaron Carranza, Director of the Regulatory Division with the State Water Commission. I am here today to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 2208, and to add a comment.

My office is aware of the necessity of this legislation and supports the effort to study regulation of water in the state, with the goal to develop recommendations that lead to more efficient and clear procedures.

As a comment, the State Water Commission requests the committee consider adding the state engineer, or the state engineer's designee, as a nonvoting member to the study.

The State Engineer's office has a long history of regulatory and technical support of Water Resource District's management of water. With this history comes a unique perspective that may add substantial value to the study.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.