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Senate Appropriations Committee

House Bill 1425 Committee Hearing March 24, 2021

Testimony of David Lang, North Dakota Water Users Association

Good morning, Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. I am David Lang and I serve as the President of the North Dakota Water Users Association. The North Dakota Water Users Association supports passage of House Bill 1425.

The Water Users Association was organized in 1959 to protect, develop, and manage North Dakota's water resources. It is currently comprised of over 300 local, statewide and regional organizations in North Dakota who have an active interest in water. We work closely with the North Dakota Water Coalition to build consensus within the water community regarding funding needs and priorities. Collaboration is essential in meeting the water resource management needs of North Dakota.

The State of North Dakota has been a generous partner in advancing critical local and regional water projects. The establishment of an infrastructure revolving loan fund, using legacy funds, as envisioned in House Bill 1425, will add an important possible revenue stream for local entities to complete these essential infrastructure projects.

We appreciate the state's long-standing commitment to fund water projects and urge your continued support of North Dakota's water infrastructure financing through passage of House Bill 1425.