

North Dakota WATER COALITION

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Barnes Rural Water District
Cass County Government
Cass County Joint Board
City of Bismarck
City of Devils Lake
City of Dickinson
City of Fargo
City of Grafton
City of Grand Forks
City of Lisbon
City of Mandan
City of Minot
City of Valley City
City of West Fargo
City of Williston
Devils Lake Basin Joint Board
East Central Regional Water District
Garrison Diversion Conservancy District
Lake Agassiz Water Authority
McLean-Sheridan Rural Water
Mercer County Water Resource District
Missouri River Joint Board
North Central Regional Water District
North Dakota Association of Counties
North Dakota Irrigation Association
North Dakota Public Finance Authority
North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association
North Dakota State Water Commission
North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association
North Dakota Water Users Association
North Dakota Weather Modification Association
Northeast Regional Water District
Northwest Area Water Supply
Red River Joint Water Board
Souris River Joint Board
South Central Regional Water District
Southwest Water Authority
Stutsman Rural Water District
Western Area Water Supply

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

House Bill 1425 Committee Hearing March 10, 2021

Testimony Provided by: Ken Royse, Chairman, ND Water Coalition

Good morning Chair Bell and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ken Royse. I am from Bismarck and offer testimony today as Chairman of the North Dakota Water Coalition. The North Dakota Water Coalition supports the efforts in House Bill 1425 to use legacy funds to fund infrastructure projects.

The North Dakota Water Coalition is an organization of water projects and political subdivisions—including water and irrigation districts, regional and rural water systems, flood control projects, and city and state water groups. Included in our membership are the cities of Bismarck, Mandan, Dickinson, Williston, Minot, Grand Forks, Fargo, West Fargo, Devils Lake, Grafton, Lisbon, and Valley City.

Since 1994, our members have worked towards a common interest and goal: to collaborate on identifying and prioritizing construction of water projects with a coordinated voice to the State Water Commission and State Legislature. Our mission is to complete North Dakota's water infrastructure. We appreciate the responsiveness and substantial investment that the state has made in water cost-share funding.

In particular, the Water Coalition supports the creation of the legacy infrastructure revolving loan fund. Investing Legacy Fund dollars in in-state projects will not only support these critical infrastructure projects, but return funds back to the Legacy Fund for continued investment long term.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer this testimony, I will respond to any questions.