North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association

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Dear Chairman Patten and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

My name is Jack Dwyer and I serve as the Executive Secretary of the North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association. Our membership has considered HB 1076, and supports the Department of Water Resources' efforts to reduce red tape for these small projects. The NDWRDA together with the North Dakota Water Users and ND Irrigation Association adopted the following resolution in support of HB 1076:

DRAINAGE REGULATION. We support water resource districts' authority to manage and regulate tile, subsurface, and surface drainage to ensure responsible watershed management and to protect downstream communities, landowners, and infrastructure. We support managed drainage as critical for the agricultural economy in North Dakota; for protection of public infrastructure; and for the benefit of all landowners and residents of North Dakota. <u>We support an exception to volumetric construction permit thresholds</u> for dikes that are exclusively agricultural in nature.

Thank you for your consideration, and the NWDRWA encourages a DO PASS recommendation regarding HB 1076.

Sincerely,

Jack Dwyer