

Testimony

**House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee**

**SB 2308**

March 13, 2025

Chairperson Schauer and members of the committee, I am Lisa Otto-Westman, Director of Environmental Health for First District Health Unit in Minot which provides Environmental Health Services, including septic system permitting, to 7 counties: Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, McLean, Renville, Sheridan, and Ward.

I am neutral on SB 2308, specifically regarding the amendment of NDCC 23-35-02.2 moving septic system regulations from public health to the Department of Environmental Quality as addressed in Section 4 on page 4 of the First Engrossment. I have had the privilege of serving on the Onsite Wastewater Recycling Technical Committee during the interim. This committee made significant progress in producing a statewide guide for onsite wastewater systems that has reached a point in which the Department of Environmental Quality can assume responsibility. This step will facilitate the statewide adoption by local public health authorities.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

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