

Chair and Members of the Committee,

As a North Dakota landowner, I am writing in support of SB 2321, which strengthens protections for property owners in eminent domain proceedings by ensuring fair compensation for legal and expert costs when our land is subject to condemnation. SB 2321 is a meaningful step toward protecting ND citizens from unjust takings.

Property owners should not bear the financial burden of defending our rights when a government entity or private party seeks to take our land. SB 2321 rightly ensures that if a condemnation case is dismissed, withdrawn, or if the property owner prevails, they are entitled to reasonable attorney's fees, court expenses, etc. These are essential safeguards that promote fairness and discourage the misuse of eminent domain authority.

Eminent domain is a powerful tool, and its use should be accompanied by the highest standards of responsibility and respect for our private property rights.

Please protect landowner's rights. I urge a "Do Pass" recommendation on SB 2321.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Susan R. Long

Berlin ND