



North Dakota Senate

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COMMITTEES:

Appropriations (Chair)

March 6, 2025

Senate Bill 2324 Testimony

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Hon. Donald Longmuir, Chairman

Chairman Longmuir and Committee Members,

Thank you, Chairman Longmuir. For the record, I am Senator Brad Bekkedahl from District 1 in Williston. I am here today to introduce SB 2324, a bill requested by Williams County to remove conflicts in Home Rule charters by resolution of City or County Commissions. The substance of the bill is in Section 2. The conflicts addressed in the bill are conflicts in language that are present due to North Dakota Century Code changes or revisions over the years since the voter passage of the home rule charters. As it was explained to me, under current law, to bring the language into compliance in these conflict areas requires a vote by the public to change. Since these are housekeeping language revisions to amend non-conforming portions, it makes sense to me that the revisions can occur by Commission resolution. There is also a public reporting requirement in the official newspaper of the county in the bill. And Section 2.3 of the bill spells out clearly that any language that intends to add any powers not included in the county's original home rule charter, may not be amended under this section and may be amended only under the provisions of section 11-9.1-06. I appreciate your attention to this bill request and respectfully request a Do Pass recommendation.

