



March 12, 2025

Senate Finance and Taxation

HB 1389

Senator Mark Weber, Chair

For the record, my name is Kory Peterson. I am appearing before you today on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities, in opposition of HB 1389 as it is currently written. Prior to working with the North Dakota League of Cities, I was the Mayor of Horace for 8 years, from June 2016 to July 2024.

In its original form, HB 1389 was a wording correction to a prior bill that would allow cities, counties, schools, and park districts to pay an infrastructure fee that replaces special assessments using the property tax special assessment fund levy. The idea was to give political subdivisions to be able to use the authority granted by the legislature to ask the voters to replace a type of special assessment with an infrastructure fee.

The bill has been amended away from the original intent of the technical correction and is currently in an unworkable condition.

The League of Cities supports ingenuity and cities working with the residents to find alternative ways to pay for infrastructure. However, this bill no longer represents the original intent of a minor correction to the prior bill.

The League recommends amending the bill back to its original form which we supported, or we recommend a Do Not Pass on this current version of the bill.

Thank you.

Kory Peterson