

Senator Jeff Barta

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North Dakota Senate

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COMMITTEES: Industry and Business State and Local Government

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Vice-chair Boehm and members of the Senate Industry & Business Committee, my name is Jeff Barta and I am the Senator from District 43, representing the west-central portion of Grand Forks. I stand before you to introduce SB2204, a bill relating to the required disclosure of radon hazards by a seller. Similar bills have been introduced in previous legislative sessions but have failed to pass in both chambers. This is not a mandate to perform testing or to perform any mitigation. The purpose of the bill is twofold; to disclose known findings and to educate buyers of residential property that radon has been found in North Dakota homes and that exposure to radon may produce health risks.

A constituent, who just happens to be an oncologist, first approached me about a potential bill shortly after the last legislative session. He shared with me the prevalence of radon in North Dakota, especially in the Red River Valley. The UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences has established a program called Radon Outreach and Research or ROAR, with a goal "to improve health through informing the public of radon risks, providing access to radon detection resources, and conducting innovative radon research." The have an excellent webpage with a great deal of information that I encourage you to view, as well as to share with friends and family. The following link will take you to their page <u>Radon Outreach And Research (ROAR) | University of North Dakota</u> or you may type <u>https://und.edu/research/soar.html</u> into your browser to navigate to the page.

The people to follow me will provide greater details on radon, its prevalence and the health risks associated with exposure to radon.

That concludes my testimony, and I will stand for any questions you may have. Thank you.