



100 West Broadway, Ste. 200 | P.O. Box 1395 | Bismarck, ND 58501-1395  
701.223.6380 | ndpc@ndoil.org | www.NDOil.org

## **House Bill 1452**

### **Testimony of Ron Ness**

#### **House Energy and Natural Resources Committee**

**January 28, 2021**

Chairman Porter and members of the Committee, my name is Ron Ness, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council. The North Dakota Petroleum Council represents more than 650 companies in all aspects of the oil and gas industry, including oil and gas production, refining, pipeline, transportation, mineral leasing, consulting, legal work, and oilfield service activities in North Dakota. I appear before you today in support of House Bill 1452.

The timing is right to be hearing this bill, given the assault on fossil fuels the Biden Administration has initiated over the past week. These drastic actions should concern every American who heats their home, drives a car, tractor, or truck, wears comfy clothes, uses a cell phone or computer, or just lives a normal life. North Dakotans appreciate the importance of fossil fuels to our lives, jobs, families, communities, education, infrastructure, and our state budget. We know the climate activists are coming for us, so what can we do as a state to ensure we do not leave 800 years of coal in the ground or leave one of the top ten oil fields in the world under-capitalized and under-developed? House Bill 1452 is an important first step in ushering in the next generation of energy production that consumers are demanding. This doesn't mean no more fossil fuels; this means we innovate, and we do it better. House Bill 1452 would provide the framework and funding to support large-scale demonstration projects to improve and advance energy production in our state while reducing impacts.

North Dakota has a strong record of facilitating partnerships to produce innovative results and we know the value of our resources. Let's show the world what we can accomplish through technology and innovation to reduce our carbon emissions and environmental footprint and change the tone of tomorrow.

It's time we act. Let's pass House Bill 1452 and reinvest in our state's resources to become the world leader in the production of clean sustainable energy. NDPC Board member Kevin Black with Creedence Energy Services is joining remotely today to discuss the technology his company is developing and the great potential it has for value-added energy.