

HB-1452

Chairman Porter and members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, for the record I'm Glenn Bosch and I represent Bismarck's District 30. I'm here today to introduce House Bill 1452.

HB-1452 establishes a Clean Sustainable Energy Authority to support research and development of 21st century technologies and to advance low emissions, minimal footprint energy production in ND. The goal of HB-1452 is to establish ND as a world leader in clean, sustainable energy. This bill will support research and development of large-scale projects and technologies that advance energy production while reducing impacts, ultimately growing and diversifying the ND economy.

HB1452 develops a framework for the state acting in partnership with private industry to bring new and emerging technologies into commercial use.

The clean sustainable energy authority is modeled after existing authorities under the North Dakota industrial commission and would establish a program to award grants and loans that bring expanded opportunity to our state.

Environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) concepts have increasingly been a topic of focus. The term refers to a set of criteria used for measuring the sustainability and social impact of a company's operations that investors use to screen opportunities. Today, investors are increasingly applying these non-financial factors as part of their analysis process to identify potential risks and growth. This bill instructs the authority to make recommendations to the legislative assembly on a comprehensive environmental, social, and governance policy for the state.

Lastly, the bill establishes the Clean Sustainable Energy Fund. This fund consists of all moneys transferred from the Legislative Assembly and other contributions received by the fund.

Chairman Porter and committee members, we know that ND has vast energy resources. We are perfecting the production of these resources every day. This new authority will help us ensure that ND is a leading producer of all of the above energy as we remain responsible stewards of our landscape.