



# North Dakota Township Officers Association

*Promoting basic Grassroots Government!*

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**House Political Subdivisions Committee**

**In support of HB 1224**

Good morning Chairman Dockter and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee. I am Larry Syverson, the Executive Secretary of the North Dakota Township Officers Association. NDTOA represents the nearly 6,000 Township Officers that serve 1,317 organized ND Townships.

When you think of townships, you probably think in terms of a few dozen people or maybe a hundred or so. According the 2010 census, over 115,000 people live in organized townships in North Dakota; so in some of our township communities there are a lot of people; most of the cities of the state don't have that many people.

It is not unusual for the small cities to contract with the county sheriff for law enforcement; the townships are asking the same ability without needing to divert funds from their road needs which likely consume their levy ability.

Please give HB 1224 your favorable consideration.

Thank you Chairman Dockter and committee members; that concludes my prepared statement; I will try to answer any questions you may have.