

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

As work and family commitments prevent me from testifying in person or via Zoom, please accept these comments as my support for SB 2144. I will ask Brian Schanilec, a member of the Interim Committee, to read my comments at tomorrow's hearing.

SB 2144 represents the collaborative efforts by all members of the Senator Erbele's interim committee to find a solution to trespassing issues, while protecting hunting and fishing. As one of the 79 participants in the electronic posting trial, I have a unique perspective.

Posting electronically was simple, fast, and effective. The information was easily accessible to the public and I received two requests to hunt from people who found my information in the electronic database. They were both grateful that I chose provide contact information, despite being denied permission because I had other hunters on the property.

SB 2144 gives landowners & controlling tenants the ability to post either electronically or physically. Electronic posting addresses the single biggest concern that we've heard during past debates: Posting can take a lot of time. It also addresses another concern: cost of signage. Now land can be posted in a few minutes at no cost.

SB 2144 provides additional protection to landowners by only allowing lawful hunting and fishing on unposted lands. All other activities require permission. If permission isn't granted, any entry or occupation would be illegal with a clear penalty. This stipulation addresses concerns about unauthorized entry that were brought to the forefront by the DAPL protest.

Senator Erbele and members of the Interim Committee worked diligently and succeeded in finding common ground in a debate that has been going on for years. Their efforts are to be commended. We finally have a solution.

Please support SB 2144 with a DO PASS recommendation. As such, I also respectfully request a DO NOT PASS for SB 2036, SB 2037, SB 2038.

Your consideration is appreciated, as is your service to the people of North Dakota.

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