Senator Lee

I respectfully and strongly request your consideration for a <u>DO NOT PASS on HB 1183</u>. The bill as passed out of committee without the suggested amendments and I believe this would be a catastrophe for the people of North Dakota that need to have septic systems.

Local public health has worked diligently to achieve the shared goals we have with industry and raise septic standards across the state to meet minimum treatment levels of septic waste in the disposal process; we have sought statewide septic regulations for years. Without any statewide agency oversight, local public health and installers formed and currently operate under a Technical Review Board. HB 1183 does not enhance current operational procedures, it actually puts local public health at a distinct disadvantage with an uneven ratio of members. It would put industry in charge of creating their own regulations at the expense of North Dakotans and the environment.

There is widespread agreement that revisions are needed, in fact much overdue, regarding the current onsite septic system program. As much as we would like to support this bill and continue forward progress with this issue, the potential consequences of eliminating already accomplished work over several years is too great a risk. I request consideration of a DO NOT PASS.

Sincerely,

Daphne Clark an Environmental Health Practitioner with LPH in the NW corner of the state for 18 years.

701-651-3424