

**TESTIMONY OF  
PHIL PETERSCHICK  
HOMELAND SECURITY GIS CHIEF  
NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
BEFORE THE 68<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MARCH 2, 2023  
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2117**

Chairman Schauer, members of the committee, my name is Phil Peterschick and I'm the GIS Chief at the Department of Emergency Services (DES) for the State of North Dakota. I am here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 2117. The bill is a housekeeping bill that removes the exemption of the statewide base map record and the ability of the State Radio Division Director to charge a fee for the record. Changes in stewardship responsibilities removed the requirement for the Department of Emergency Services to create and update the statewide base map, which has rendered NDCC 37-17.3-11 unnecessary.

The current base map is developed and maintained through a collaboration between the state, counties, cities and third-party vendors. The record is no longer created and owned by the Department of Emergency Services, and therefore we cannot charge a fee for something we do not own. This change will ensure that Century Code aligns with business practices and will have no impact on budgets at either the state or local level. NDES has never levied a fee for the base map and there has never been an account setup to receive revenues for associated fees. There was a continuing appropriation attached to the fee collection that would have allowed for fees to be spent on maintenance of the base map, but it has also never been used. Simply put, the technology and business practices related to the base map changed so fast that the current Century Code was never fully implemented.

Mr. Chairman, this completes our testimony. Thank you for your time and consideration of this housekeeping bill that will align Century Code with current business practices and technology.