

Testimony
House Bill 1072 – Department of Water Resources
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Representative Todd Porter, Chair
January 12, 2023

Chairman Porter, and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee – I am Darin Langerud, Director of the Atmospheric Resource Division of the Department of Water Resources. I am here today to provide you an overview of HB 1072.

HB 1072 corrects two subsections in 61-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code (N.D.C.C.) that were overlooked in the drafting of HB 1353, which last session, created the Department of Water Resources. HB 1072 also repeals a subsection of code and amends a subdivision of code related to outdated procurement requirements.

Sections 1 and 2 of HB 1072 replace “state water commission” with “department of water resources” in N.D.C.C. § 61-04.1-04 and 61-04.1-06. In addition, for consistency with the name change, I would like to offer an amendment that “commission” on page 2, line 7 should be replaced with “department”. These sections relate to the establishment, direction, and supervision of the atmospheric resource board as a division of the department of water resources. Last session, HB 1353 did not identify and correct the department name change in these sections.

Sections 3 and 4 of HB 1072 relate to vendor requirements in bidding for contract services. Bid bonds are not required under rules promulgated by OMB’s State Procurement Office. These changes remove that outdated requirement and are offered as part of the Governor’s red-tape reduction effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy to address any questions you may have.