

My name is Duane Sand. I rise in support of HCR 3015. I operated several different types of nuclear reactors in the US Navy, both on land and at sea, aboard several different submarines. I also worked for the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and supervised the operations of several different commercial nuclear reactors in three different states.

America invented commercial nuclear power in the 1960's. America lead the world in showing how it can be done safely and efficiently. Unfortunately, the American nuclear industry is in great decline with over 20 different nuclear stations being decommissioned across the country, in states like Vermont, Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan and California in the last twenty years. All this while demand for electricity in America is rising, especially with the employment of electric cars and trucks across our great nation. Also several countries, especially China and India, are building more nuclear reactors while we in America are decommissioning ours.

There has only been one new nuclear reactor station built in America since 1984. We have to do more. Nuclear is simply the only solution for future base-loading of our various power grids that is reliable, safe and emits zero carbon emissions.

I have been touting more nuclear in America, especially here in North Dakota, since 2011. All major newspapers in North Dakota have endorsed this idea. Most people in our great state are shocked to realize the very first commercial nuclear power plant built in America was built in Sioux Falls, SD. The Pathfinder.

During the 2011 Legislative Session I was grateful for bipartisan support to have introduced an HCR supporting nuclear power. It passed the House unanimously. Unfortunately, the day after I testified in the Senate Committee in support of the HCR Fukushima happened and the committee voted down the resolution.

Please pass this HCR.

Thank You.