

Testimony HB 1253
House Transportation Committee
January 27, 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Transportation committee, my name is Steve Farden of Farden Construction in Maxbass, North Dakota. Our Family has been hauling gravel in North Dakota since 1935, with the first documented load being hauled to US Highway 83 north of Maxbass. We oppose HB 1253 as written.

Over the past three years, we have hauled 75,000 loads of gravel in North Dakota which equates to over 2,000,000 miles driven by our truck drivers. We have replaced two windshields during this time.

Most of our gravel goes to the close to 100 townships we deliver to in our area. These loads are primarily on secondary roadways but require our drivers to be on State Highways for a limited period of time. The additional cost to tarp every load would be a cost to our customers and a burden for our drivers. It is not me but the people who work with me who show this can be done safely with the proper equipment and work ethic.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I request you to give HB 1253 a Do NOT Pass Recommendation and I will attempt to address any questions the committee may have.

Thanks again.