

North Dakota Senate

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Legislative Assembly

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COMMITTEES:
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02/08/2023

Good Morning Madam Chair Lee and committee members, for the record I am Senator Jeff Magrum representing district 8 which is Burleigh and Emmons County and a little sliver of Mclean County.

I am here to introduce SB2262. SB2262 is a bill to enable the Governor to nominate the Health and Human Services Director and the Senate to confirm the position. Considering the HHS director manages a budget of nearly five billion dollars it is in the best interest of the state of ND to have more transparency and oversight concerning the position of HHS Director. Comparatively the Secretary of State's proposed budget is a little over fifteen million dollars. The ND State Auditor's budget is proposed to be around eighteen million. The State Treasurer's proposed budget is under two million dollars. The State Tax Commissioner's budget is proposed to be around seventy million. These are just some of the executive branch elected officials. I know you get the idea. The HHS Director effects every individual's life in ND in one way or another.

Twenty-six other states currently have this process. I have submitted testimony from NCSL (National Council of State Legislators) to back this up.

Madam Chair and Committee members I ask for a due pass on SB2262