

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee Testimony on HB 1285

North Dakota Game and Fish Department Jeb Williams, Director March 23, 2023

Chairman Schauer, and members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee. I am Jeb Williams, Director for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. I would like to provide a brief testimony in opposition to HB 1285.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department (Department) greatly values the importance of having the ability to bring forth proposed legislation. We utilize this option primarily for cleanup of language or to simplify logistics of process, which serves to enhance our responsibility to the general public in fulfilling our mission to *protect*, *conserve* and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitat for sustained public consumptive and nonconsumptive use; something we strive to achieve for today and for future generations.

With this in mind, I respectfully oppose HB 1285.