



## North Dakota Senate

State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

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Senator  
Dick Dever  
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Committees:  
Appropriations

January 19, 2023

### Testimony in Support of SB 2163

Madam Chair, members of the Committee, I am Dick Dever, Senator from District 32 here in Bismarck

I was asked to sponsor this bill by Protection and Advocacy in support of the people they serve.

When a measure is placed on the ballot, the language in the measure is determined by the proponents.

The summary that is placed on the ballot is written by the Secretary of State and approved by the Attorney General.

SB 2163 requires that the language on the ballot be written "in plain, clear, understandable language using words with common, everyday meaning"

The language in the measure is available on the Secretary of State's website. Efforts to address issues associated with that language have met with frustration. It is difficult when "yes" means "no" and vice versa.

This bill only seeks to address the ballot language. I am happy to respond to any questions. Veronica is here to visit also. Thank you.