There is a lot of discussion about this in the emergency response circles of ND. The cold hard truth is that almost all of ND completely lacks responders knowledgeable and skilled in the science and art of lost person search.

Yes, we have Sheriffs EMS and Fire Depts. with off road capabilities. When we find someone in the field who needs help, we can treat and transport them.

But first we have to find them and very few parts of ND have people trained to do that.

Manitoba and Minnesota both are light years ahead of ND. They are examples of how it could be done, without impeding upon the authority and responsibility of the County Sheriff who is by law legally responsible for SAR in ND.

We should encourage our elected representatives and our Sheriffs to address this lack of resource and create ways to support them as they do that.

As a past member of the ND SAR Advisory Committee, EMS squad leader, LEO and Emergency Management exercise designer, I would strongly urge the legislature to act favorable on this proposal.