

To: North Dakota Senate State and Local Government Committee
Date: February 6, 2023
RE: Senate Resolution #4007

Senator Roers and committee members,

Hello, my name is Margaret Renbarger and I have been actively supportive of the Badlands Search and Rescue team since they started. I don't do the search and rescue but support it monetarily as a donor.

I have lived in western North Dakota most of my life. I feel that SAR is an excellent and vital program. The rugged country that we have here—the Badlands, the canyons and coulees along Lake Sakakawea, and the many rivers and lakes throughout our state. Someone could easily become lost or injured and would need support from search and rescue if injured or lost as most of the emergency services we have don't have any specialty training or equipment for SAR.

We also have many miles of shoreline along Lake Sakakawea. There have been drownings that Badlands SAR has assisted with in the recovery of the victim.

All of North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and South Dakota and parts of Canada need to all work together.

I am writing in support of SRC 4007. This is a much-needed study in the state. We need to get rid of the red tape that needs to be crossed before deployment due to politics and lack of knowledge as to SAR operations. Missing persons and people in distress in our great outdoors are time sensitive for so many reasons. We need the fully support our SAR and Dive teams and support this study and the Search And Rescue Volunteer Association of North Dakota and Badlands Search and Rescue, along with any other teams that fit this category!

The good people of North Dakota need this program. We have dedicated people here in the state that can provide these services, but more must be done to support them and identify the issues and needs at hand. Thank you very much! Please vote with a DO PASS for SCR 4007.

Thank you,

Margaret Renbarger
204 North Main Street
PMB # 369
Watford City, North Dakota
58854
701-580-4968