

MICHAEL C. HOWE
SECRETARY OF STATE

WEBSITE sos.nd.gov



PHONE (701) 328-2900
E-MAIL sos@nd.gov

SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
600 EAST BOULEVARD AVENUE DEPT 108
BISMARCK ND 58505-0500

SENATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
SENATOR MIKE WOBBEMA

HOUSE BILL NO. 1191
MARCH 9, 2023

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BY

MICHAEL MONROE, BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTOR, OFFICE of SECRETARY OF STATE

The Office of Secretary of State respectfully submits neutral testimony on HB 1191. This bill seeks to move licensing of auctioneers from the Public Service Commission to a registration process with the Office of the Secretary of State.

While we don't have information about how this process currently works at the Public Service Commission, we believe based on the language of the bill we could fit auctioneers into our current registration protocols. There are two areas of concern for our agency.

The first, is on page 10, lines 11 – 12. We are proposing an amendment asking that reference to a "state license number" be removed as it is not something we could provide in our registration process.

Also, we have concerns with implementation and the process that would be taken to notify auctioneers of a change in their requirements. Would the Public Service Commission be responsible to notify those who are currently licensed through them? Would this include a transference of data to the Secretary of State from the Public Service Commission to aid in the transition? It would be helpful to have some clearer intentions behind how the transfer would happen for both agencies.

Chairman Wobbema, members of the committee, I hope you will consider our proposed amendment, and this completes my testimony and I'm happy to stand for any questions.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1191

Page 10, line 11, overstrike "state license"

Page 10, line 12, overstrike "number"