



**Testimony on HB 1514
House Agriculture Committee
February 6, 2025**

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the House Agriculture Committee. I am Dani Quissell with the North Dakota Weather Modification Association. I am here in opposition to HB 1514.

HB 1514 would, among other things, ban a longstanding weather modification program in North Dakota. This program dates back to the 1950s. We are fortunate to have a framework in place that gives the people the choice, on a local level, whether or not weather modification activities occur in their area.

Today, just two counties, Bowman and McKenzie, and a few townships in Slope have active weather modification programs. This is a change from just two years ago when we last talked about weather modification. In November, the people in Williams and Mountrail counties voted to discontinue their programs. In my opinion, this demonstrates that our current framework works.

HB 1514 would unilaterally decide for all residents that weather modification shouldn't happen. This is despite the fact that the last time Bowman County put this to a vote, 70% of voters voted to continue the program.

The beauty of our current system is that this program is locally driven. That's the way it should be.

For these reasons, I ask you to give HB 1514 a 'do not pass' recommendation and continue the current practice of allowing locals to decide for themselves whether to have weather modification in their area or not. Thank you for your attention this morning. I'd be happy to stand for any questions.