

**Do Pass Testimony
of Doug Sharbono, citizen of North Dakota
on HB1295
in the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota**

Dear Chairman Headland and members of the House Finance and Taxation Committee,

I am writing as a citizen and believe HB1295 is much needed legislation. This legislation fairly ensures that the carbon sequestration industry pays their fair share of taxes just like everyone else. I am unsure how the tax earmark for the carbon sequestration industry got written into law in previous sessions. However, it is there and needs to be corrected.

Carbon sequestration in terms of science is a fool's errand and particularly does not deserve a tax exemption. Carbon sequestration is the equivalent of paying someone to dig a ditch and placing the soil excavation from side to side just to do it.

We live in a very special place and increased concentrations of carbon dioxide are beneficial to plant growth using the God-given process of photosynthesis. This flourishing of increased vegetation draws more Carbon Dioxide out of the air and in balance. Historical records indicate the carbon dioxide records have varied very little during the industrial revolution. Burning of fossil fuels and exhausting the carbon dioxide directly to the atmosphere has had no affect when looking at the data. All of this points to the fool's errand of carbon sequestration.

In light of recent property tax controversies in North Dakota and much increased property taxes, the citizens have a keen interest in ensuring there is no special favor for handpicked groups friendly to those in governance. The carbon sequestration industry needs to pay their fair share of tax.

Please give HB1295 a Do Pass.

Thank you,

Doug Sharbono
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