

HOUSE BILL 1210

Testimony of Todd D. Kranda

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee

- January 30, 2025 -

Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, for the record, my name is Todd D. Kranda, I am an attorney with the law firm of Kelsch Ruff Kranda Nagle & Ludwig law firm in Mandan, ND. I am appearing before you as a lobbyist on behalf of the North Dakota Petroleum Council.

The North Dakota Petroleum Council represents more than 550 companies involved in all aspects of the oil and gas industry, including oil and gas production, refining, pipeline development, transportation, mineral leasing, consulting, legal work, and oilfield service activities in North Dakota, South Dakota, and the Rocky Mountain region.

The North Dakota Petroleum Council is opposed to HB 1210 which is overly broad and unnecessary. HB 1210 arbitrarily singles out and targets a specific category of pipelines and sets out a random distance of a 25 mile radius as a so-called “kill zone” for establishing a lien for any “victim” defined as a person filing a statement under the new law being created.

HB 1210 is unnecessary because any person who might be injured or damaged regardless of the distance from an incident would be able to pursue relief for any injury or damages caused by the party at fault. Further, there are laws and rules, and procedures already established and in place for recovery and collection of any monetary damages that may be awarded, including a judgment lien created against nonexempt (non homestead) real property.

The North Dakota Petroleum Council opposes HB 1210 and urges a **Do Not Pass Recommendation**. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information. I would be happy to try to answer any questions.