

Testimony of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society
By Phil Mastrangelo (#1571)
HB 1325
HOUSE ENERGY and NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
January 24, 2025

Chairman Porter and Members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

For the record, I'm Phil Mastrangelo representing the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. The Chapter is a professional organization comprised of over 320 members who are employed throughout North Dakota as wildlife biologists, land managers, educators, wildlife law enforcement officers, and natural resource administrators.

The Chapter is in opposition to HB 1325 for the following reasons:

The Duties of the Director of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGFD), as currently stated in Section 20.1-0204 of the North Dakota Century Code, are fairly straight forward. Those duties are not overly intrusive to the citizens of North Dakota and there is no "government overreach."

After a 30+ year career with the federal government, I learned that the best way to make any government agency ineffective, is to burden it with unnecessary administrative rules and policies. Passage of SB 1325 would be an intrusion into how the Directors of the NDGFD execute their duties. Passage of SB 1325 could set a precedent and lead to more unnecessary administrative rules and policies, making the NDGFD less effective in fulfilling its mandate to protect and enhance North Dakota's wildlife resources.

Therefore, the Chapter respectfully requests a "Do Not Pass" vote on SB 1325.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to SB 1325.

Phil Mastrangelo
Lobbyist #1571
North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society