

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee Testimony on HB 1412

North Dakota Game and Fish Department Casey Anderson, Wildlife Division Chief January 23, 2025

Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Casey Anderson and I serve as the Wildlife Division Chief for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (Department). I am testifying today in support of HB 1412.

Recent updates to the Department's online services better align with industry standards, eliminating the need for large-scale refunds. Moving forward, the Department will only charge successful applicants for licenses issued by lottery. The proposed bill maintains the option for unsuccessful applicants to donate their license fee to the Private Land Habitat and Access Improvement Fund and allocate that donation to the Private Land Open to Sportsmen program.

This donation option has been well received and generated nearly \$90K annually. Given the success of this initiative, the Department supports HB 1412.

This concludes my testimony and I'd be happy to answer any questions.