

**Testimony of Merri Mooridian, Garrison Diversion Administrative Officer  
HB 1162  
House Political Subdivisions Committee  
Bismarck, North Dakota – January 16, 2025**

Good afternoon, Chairman Longmuir and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB1162. My name is Merri Mooridian, Administrative Officer of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (Garrison Diversion) and Deputy Program Manager of Red River Valley Water Supply Project Administration. Garrison Diversion is a cosponsor of the Red River Valley Water Supply Project along with the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (Lake Agassiz).

I am here to voice Garrison Diversion's support for the legislation to amend North Dakota Century Code related to the Lake Agassiz Water Authority board of directors.

Garrison Diversion and LAWA have been a unified voice for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project since Lake Agassiz's formation by the state legislature in 2003.

We are in favor of modifying the existing Century Code to allow for representatives from two differing cities with a population greater than 40,000 located east of state highway 1 and south of state highway 200. Adding additional representation to the board will allow for a broader voice for Project users.

The Red River Valley Water Supply Project is currently under construction and our ultimate goal is to have the project completed in 2032. Garrison Diversion and Lake Agassiz are proud to be working together to help this historic project come to fruition. Thank you for allowing my testimony today.