



Testimony in Support HB 1162
Presented to the House Political Subdivisions Committee
Prepared by Bernie Dardis, Mayor, City of West Fargo
Thursday, January 16, 2025

1 Mr. Chairman and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:


2 Thank you for accepting my written testimony in support of House Bill 1162
3 amending the selection of the Board of Directors for the Lake Agassiz Water
4 Authority (LAWA) to include West Fargo.

5 LAWA represents local water users who utilize the Red River Valley Water
6 Supply Project (RRVWSP) which is critical to the preservation and future of the
7 water supply in the Red River Valley. Upon project completion, West Fargo will
8 be the third largest user of water from the RRVWSP behind Grand Forks and
9 Fargo.

10 Based on current North Dakota Century Code, I represent West Fargo as a
11 non-voting, Associate Board Member of LAWA. This bill will allow West Fargo to
12 have a voting interest on the Board of Directors to represent our community's
13 interest in RRVWSP and the future of West Fargo's clean and safe drinking water.

14 I am grateful to LAWA and to the Legislators Representing the West Fargo
15 community for initiating this bill for understanding the importance of equitable
16 representation on the LAWA board. I strongly urge a do pass and thank you for
17 your consideration.

18 Sincerely,

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21 City of West Fargo
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