

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Date: 03/20/2025

Nancy Seefeldt - Morton County Recorder

RE: SB 2259 Relating to the provision of blanks and records

Chairman Longmuir and Committee Members:

My name is Nancy Seefeldt, I am the Recorder in Morton County. I am providing testimony asking for support of SB 2259.

I have included the verbiage of the current NDCC we are wanting to be repealed.

44-04-16. Officer to provide blanks and records for office. Each county, city, township, or school district officer shall provide, at the expense of the county, city, township, or school district, as the case may be, such blanks and records as are necessary for making proper records and for transacting any official business connected with the office.

This code was brought to the Recorder's attention this last year and is very concerning to us.

As recorders our duties are:

- 1) To make sure the documents meet our recording requirements.
- 2) The safekeeping of the documents we put on record.

We are not responsible for making sure a document is drafted to meet the customers legal needs.

Every individual or family has a different reality they are living in and there are many types of deeds that can be used for a transaction that affects the ownership of their property. The type of deed or group of documents used for their transfer all depends on what the individual(s) end goal would be.

A couple of words can change what a deed does and there is not a "one form fits all", when it comes to conveying property.

As a recorder, I am wanting the types of documents used for property transactions to be left up to our Attorneys discretion, so that we can focus on our recording standards.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this bill, I would appreciate your support and to please give SB 2259 a DO PASS Recommendation.

Thank you for your time and I will stand for any questions