



North Dakota House of Representatives

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NOVAK
HB 1422



Representative Anna Novak

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COMMITTEES:

Education
Energy and Natural Resources (Vice Chair)

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Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

I am introducing HB1422 on behalf of a constituent, Frank Senn. He is the police chief in Beulah, ND, and has been in law enforcement for thirty years. When he approached me about the idea of trying to reduce the number of people driving under suspension, he actually had run into this exact circumstance five times in the previous week. This is clearly a problem.

I am going to let Chief Senn explain how this bill impacts him in his job directly, as I sponsored this bill on his behalf. Now, my original plan was to quickly walk you through the proposed changes in this bill. However, yesterday afternoon and this morning, I was made aware of some valid problems with the bill version in front of you. I was contacted by Travis Finck, Executive Director for the Commission on Legal Council for Indingents and as I mentioned, the concerns were valid. Travis and Chief Senn were able to connect and I believe that they have come up with a potential solution for the problem of driving under suspension; however, there wasn't time for potential changes to be drafted.

If it would be agreeable to the committee, I would request that Chief Senn follow my testimony with an explanation of the original bill and the proposed changes that he and Travis Finck are working on. They share the same goal, and want to come up with a workable version of HB1422.

With that, I'll stand for any questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

VISION ZERO

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

Mr. Chairman, Member of Transportation Committee
THANK YOU for opportunity to present today
NAME

HB1422 WAS introduced to hopefully
CLOSE A loophole in 39-06-012 Driving while
LICENSE SUSPENDED. Currently AN driver
whom HAS been charged with Operating
A motor vehicle while license suspend.
CLASS B Misdemeanor. Can petition the court
TO HAVE the charge dismissed if the
driver obtains their license back within
60 days. This has taxed Law Enforcement AND COURTS
with NO deterrence to the offending driver.

Currently HB1422 would create a
subsection that would prevent dismissed
and add reduce to a distinction of
Disqualified driver. Driver would be assessed
\$100 fine and 3PTS.

LAST night I WAS CONTACTED AND informed
of issues within the bill. I WAS ABLE TO
meet with opposition and I feel there
was A lot of common ground. I Respectfully
request NO ACTION on bill so that we can
draft amendments to reflect those common
grounding - two possibly introduce them back to
the committee. As early as next week. 