

The logo for the North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association is a dark blue silhouette of the state of North Dakota. Inside the silhouette, the text "North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association" is written in white, sans-serif font, stacked in three lines.

**North Dakota  
Water Resource  
Districts Association**

**Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee  
Hearing for S.B. 2210  
January 24, 2025**

**Testimony of Jack Dwyer on behalf of the ND Water Resource Districts Association**

Chairman Luick and members of the committee, my name is Jack Dwyer, and I serve as the Executive Secretary of the North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association (NDWRDA).

We have often discussed the advantages of water management using political boundaries versus managing water based on watershed boundaries. This topic is challenging as there are many factors to consider. And while water is wet, this topic is a dry one. NDWRDA's Long Term Goals and Resolutions has language on this issue, specifically relating to improvements that could be made to enhance water management within a watershed using our existing system, which recognized political boundaries.

NDWRDA Resolution No. 88 supports eliminating the mandate for a water resource district to participate on joint basin water resource districts, to remove serving as an arbiter between two individual water resources districts, and to create a dispute resolution process between two or more water resources districts.

NDWRDA Resolution No. 89 supports defining water resource districts' ability to assess for project costs across water resource district boundaries in accordance with benefits.

NDWRDA believes a legislative management study would be the appropriate venue to discuss these potential improvements and to weigh the pros and cons of moving to water management based on watershed boundaries.

As such, NDWRDA supports S.B. 2210 and encourages your review and approval of this bill.