

Dear Committee Members:

I support Bill 2283.

We need some management of our Natural Resources (water). Now, anything goes.

I live in SE Barnes County, Sec 14 and 13 of Binghampton Township. In Sec 13, a "Y" of two water systems meet. I estimate that over the last 20 years, 10 to 15 under 80 acres drains have been put in so that the water flow has increased dramatically.

I farm about 200 acres- alfalfa, hay, high quality organic produce that is sold regionally. With more drainage and tiling in the past few years, this has made a very big hardship with loss of cropland, highway flooding, county roads washed out. Not to leave out the wetlands- chemicals and salt moving through, wildlife and wetlands lost, a total mess.

Now I have USDA NRCS offices telling me our land is highly erodible. I haven't done any of this.

No one has added up the cost draining has done to landowners, the wildlife, the counties and just the land.

Something needs to be done to save our resources.

Thank you,

Arlen Huber