

Testimony for SB 2283

DATE: Submitted on 1-29-25

RE: Gary Heintz

19 1st Ave. NW, Chaseley ND 58423

Cell Phone: 701-650-2064

Email: gheintz@daktel.com

My name is Gary Heintz from Chaseley ND. I support this bill, SB 2283.

As a result of being at the bottom of a closed basin drainage system, my neighbors and I receive the runoff of a very large watershed plus the waters of upstream tiling systems that fall below the 80 acre permitting requirement.

The drainage system that affects us requires pumping, when allowed, to remove any waters from the final reservoir that inundates our farmland. This flooding is happening now and any additional water, even from smaller tiling systems, compounds the problem. To add insult to injury, my neighbors and I pay at the highest assessment rate only to hold the water while those upstream pay at a lower assessment rate and have free rein to dump their water on those below. These upstream systems are not even required by the authorizing water district to stop pumping until water levels would be at a more manageable level on our farmland.

This legislation would be a good start to downstream taxpayers having some say in slowing down the amount of water that is now accumulating on and flooding their farmland.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

Respectfully,
Gary Heintz