



**Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
Hearing for SB 2299  
February 13, 2025  
Testimony of Dani Quissell, Executive Vice President,  
North Dakota Water Users Association**

Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns with SB 2299. I am Dani Quissell and I serve as the Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Water Users Association. The Water Users Association is the state-wide member organization dedicated to protecting, developing, and managing North Dakota's water resources. We have more than 150 members including local, statewide and regional organizations in North Dakota who have an active interest in water.

Many of our members are rural water systems who have shared concerns with some of the provisions of SB 2299. Section 3, in particular, is of concern. It's important to note that current law recognizes that rural water systems exist to serve their members and gives systems the flexibility to set up bylaws as voted on by their members. Our concern is that Section 3 would remove that flexibility, negatively impacting systems and their members across the state.

North Dakota has a robust rural water system that serves hundreds of thousands of rural and small community residents across the state. The Water Users Association would ask that you oppose SB 2299 as currently drafted. We understand that there are some amendments being offered by the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association. We believe those amendments would alleviate our concerns with SB 2299.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I would be happy to stand for any questions.