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DESCRIPTION

1196

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Dennis G. Ball
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

2003 HOUSE FINANCE AND TAXATION

HB 1196

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Deanna G. Bell
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1196

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 20, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		39.8

Committee Clerk Signature *Janice Stein*

Minutes:

REP. WESLEY BELTER, CHAIRMAN Called the hearing to order.

REP. GIL HERBEL. Introduced the bill. This bill removes lines 32 and 33 from the state income tax form. The reason for the removal of these two lines is that the tax form, should be a tax form, and not a fund raising form. He stated he is not opposed to the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, the Salvation Army and the veterans, the crippled children, the senior citizens, United Way, Red Cross, all of these are great causes. I firmly believe they need a different mechanism to fund their causes. Eventually, if you add more check-offs, you will have requests for more of these organizations. The income tax form should be kept to do your income taxes. Attached, is a copy of the Individual Income Tax Return.

LARRY KOTCHMAN, STATE FORESTER. Testified in opposition of the bill. See attached written testimony, plus a handout "Trees for North Dakota".

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Dorinda Ball...
Operator's Signature 1/21/03
Date

Page 2
House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1196
Hearing Date January 20, 2003

REP. FROELICH How does your program differ or vary from the programs of the Soil Conservation Services, why can't we do it through the Soil Conservation Services and abolish this one?

LARRY KOTCHMAN The programs differ in the sense that the forests that are planted, are aimed at communities. There is no other cost share available for that kind of an activity from the Soil Conservation District. In terms of the living snow fence effort, these programs are funded through activities that come from our agency. We do work with the Soil Conservation Districts very closely in the administration of the living snow fence effort. The thing about cost funds that are unique for living snow fences is that there are other programs that help establish living snow fences, but they only fund up to seventy five percent of the cost. These monies are often, additional dollars that go in to a project to bring it up to 100% of the out of pocket costs for a private landowner.

DEAN HILDEBRAND, DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH DAKOTA GAME & FISH

DEPARTMENT. Testified in opposition of the bill. He reiterated what he testified to in HB 1342. He related to trees which were planted by school kids, who come back years later to find the tree they planted. Most all of those trees come from that check-off program. They hire young people in the spring of the year, to conduct tours through their wildlife sites.

REP. BELTER Are you saying, you cannot use any of your internal funds to replace these, from hunting or whatever?

DEAN HILDEBRAND Referred to the handout which was submitted to committee members, utilizing federal dollars for nongame species. The federal government is very specific on how we utilize those funds. We have lots of birdwatchers in North Dakota. All of those birdwatching

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Deanna Hildebrand
Operator's Signature

1/21/03
Date

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House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1196
Hearing Date January 20, 2003

clubs and all of those nongame things, I can't give federal dollars to, unless they are earmarked by the federal government. There are certain instances under tree planting, where I can use those types of funds.

REP. BELTER Did I hear you say, that if this bill wasn't passed, you would probably be able to find the funds?

DEAN HILDEBRAND I am going to try to plant as many trees as I can.

REP. BELTER What about the Watchable Wildlife?

DEAN HILDEBRAND Under Watchable Wildlife, it depends upon how it is placed. If something is being placed in an outdoor wildlife learning site, I will have to scramble.

REP. WINRICH Rep. Herbel in his presentation, talked about support of a number of private nonprofit organizations thrown in and saying the tax form should be simplified, do the funds that go to the watchable wildlife program support any such private nonprofits?

LARRY KOTCHMAN Answered the question. No, they do not, they come exclusively, to save forests.

REP. SCHMIDT Through the tree fund, you couldn't even if you wanted to, by law, you could not give the senior citizens any funding out of your budget?

DEAN HILDEBRAND No

REP. SCHMIDT Is that a federal law?

DEAN HILDEBRAND No, it is a state law. I couldn't take X number of dollars out of my budget and give it to the Silver-Haired Association.

REP. SCHMIDT Maybe we need to make a law to do that.

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Operator's Signature

10/2/03
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House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1196
Hearing Date January 20, 2003

REP. FROELICH Do you have any place on the hunting and fishing licenses, right now, where you have a voluntary check-off for fifty cents or one dollar, for any of these programs we discussed?

DEAN HILDEBRAND No

REP. FROELICH Asked if it had ever been considered.

DEAN HILDEBRAND There have been a lot of things considered. Some people say you should have a check-off, to be able to increase habitat funding, and some people say you should have a check-off for almost everything. A lot of the licenses are being sold electronically, right now. Anything is possible.

BILL PFEIFER, WILDLIFE SOCIETY. Testified in opposition of the bill. He stated these funds have stood the test of time for ten plus years. Apparently, they are satisfactory to the folks who are using them, and certainly to the organizations who are receiving them. There is no appropriation of state and general fund money goes into any of this, it is only a donation situation. Related to a situation which happened about ten years ago, regarding his in-laws and bird watching. This mechanism, for people like that, to show an appreciation, they don't hunt any more, but those folks can show appreciation by this donation.

MIKE DONAHUE, NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION. Testified in opposition of the bill.

KAY POWER, TEACHER IN BISMARCK Testified in opposition of the bill. She stated there is no better teaching tool than bringing in the outdoors to a classroom. In the eleven years that she has taught, she used the outdoors in her classroom. She stated she has gone to the State Game & Fish for the different publications to use in the classroom, and the students are ecstatic

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10/2/03
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Page 5
House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1196
Hearing Date January 20, 2003

about that. If you cut off this funding, you are missing a big portion of the education that goes on. Gave an example of her study of the owls in North Dakota, working in the classroom. She stated they got a lot of coverage on that project in the newspaper.

RON LUTHE, CITIZEN OF BISMARCK Testified in opposition of the bill. He felt the funding that is received from this check-off, is a great benefit for the state.

JEB WILLIAMS, NORTH DAKOTA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT Testified in opposition of the bill. He stated he works extensively with the watchable wildlife program. He state they share the watchable wildlife program with everyone through the popular photo contest. Each year, they produce a promotional poster. This year, there were fifty participants, who sent in over three hundred photographs for the program. It offered a very unique look to the wildlife in North Dakota. This is just one of the areas in which the funding is used. These artists are then featured in the North Dakota Outdoors Magazine. It has been a very positive approach.

REP. BELTER Asked if all of the publications handed out during the hearing, were free publications?

JEB WILLIAMS That is correct.

REP. BELTER Asked whether there were any paying customers.

JEB WILLIAMS Yes, there are about 28,000 subscriptions.

With no further testimony, the hearing was closed.

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Deanna Holbrook
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

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House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1196
Hearing Date January 20, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION 1-21-03, Tape #1, Side B, Meter #39.9

Committee members discussed the pros and cons regarding this bill. Several of the committee members felt these organizations will find different ways to fund themselves then having a check-off on the income tax return.

COMMITTEE ACTION 1-27-03, Tape #1, Side B, Meter # 22.2

During discussion several committee members felt that a tax form should not be used for check-offs.

REP. WEILER Made a motion for a **DO NOT PASS**

REP. KLEIN Second the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

REP. DROYDAL Made a motion to adopt an amendment which would change the effective date of December 31, 2002 to December 31, 2004.

REP. CLARK Second the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

REP. CLARK Made a motion for a **DO PASS AS AMENDED**

REP. IVERSON Second the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

7 YES 6 NO 1 ABSENT

REP. GROSZ Was given the floor assignment.

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Dorinda G. Ball
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/29/2003

Amendment to: HB 1196

1A. State fiscal effect: Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						(\$63,000)
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect: Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2. Narrative: Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.

Engrossed HB 1196 eliminates the optional contribution to the nongame wildlife and Trees for North Dakota programs that are contained on the income tax form. The effective date has been changed so the elimination becomes effective on the 2005 tax return. The fiscal impact in the 2003-05 biennium is zero.

3. State fiscal effect detail: For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:

A. Revenues: Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

The two funds collected a total of \$63,000 from voluntary contributions on the income tax form in the most recent two years.

B. Expenditures: Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

C. Appropriations: Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.

Name:	Kathryn L. Strombeck	Agency:	Tax Dept.
Phone Number:	328-3402	Date Prepared:	01/30/2003

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Dorena Hall
 Operator's Signature

10/2/03
 Date

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/09/2003

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1196

1A. State fiscal effect: Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues				(\$63,000)		
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect: Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2. Narrative: Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.

HB 1196 eliminates the optional contribution to the nongame wildlife and trees for North Dakota funds that are contained on the income tax form.

3. State fiscal effect detail: For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:

A. Revenues: Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

The two funds collected a total of \$63,000 from voluntary contributions on the income tax form in the most recent two years.

B. Expenditures: Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

C. Appropriations: Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.

Name:	Kathryn L. Strombeck	Agency:	Tax Dept.
Phone Number:	328-3402	Date Prepared:	01/17/2003

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Dorena Holbrook
 Operator's Signature

10/2/03
 Date

Date: 1-27-03
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1196

House FINANCE & TAXATION Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Failed

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Rep Weiler Seconded By Rep Klein

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
BELTER, CHAIRMAN		✓			
DROVDAL, VICE-CHAIR		✓			
CLARK		✓			
FROELICH		✓			
GROSZ		✓			
HEADLAND		✓			
IVERSON		✓			
KELSH	✓				
KLEIN	✓				
NICHOLAS	A				
SCHMIDT	✓				
WEILER	✓				
WIKENHEISER	✓				
WINRICH	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 7

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Dorinda Haldrup 1/27/03
 Operator's Signature Date

Date: 1-27-03
 Roll Call Vote #: 2

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1196

House FINANCE & TAXATION Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass as amended

Motion Made By Rep. Clark Seconded By Rep. Iverson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
BELTER, CHAIRMAN	✓				
DROVDAL, VICE-CHAIR	✓				
CLARK	✓				
FROELICH	✓				
GROSZ	✓				
HEADLAND	✓				
IVERSON	✓				
KELSH		✓			
KLEIN		✓			
NICHOLAS		✓			
SCHMIDT		✓			
WEILER		✓			
WIKENHEISER		✓			
WINRICH		✓			

Total (Yes) 7 No 6

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. GYOSZ

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Dorinda Ballantyne 1/27/03
 Operator's Signature Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 27, 2003 3:35 p.m.

Module No: HR-15-1150
Carrier: Groez
Insert LC: 30311.0101 Title: .0200

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1196: Finance and Taxation Committee (Rep. Belter, Chairman) recommends
AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS**
(7 YEAS, 6 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1196 was placed on the Sixth
order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 8, replace "2002" with "2004"

Renumber accordingly

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-15-1150

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Deanna Baller
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

2003 TESTIMONY

HB 1196

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Dorena Hollcraft
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

Rep. Herbel HB 1196

Form North Dakota Office of State Tax Commissioner



ND-1 Individual income tax return 2002

Use type or print in black or blue ink. Enter one letter or number in each box. Fill in circles completely.

social security number

Spouse's social security number

Fill in only if applicable: Amended (See page 9) Extension

Your name (First, MI, Last name)		
If joint return, spouse's name (First, MI, Last name)		
Mailing address		
City	State	Zip code

Fiscal year filer ONLY: (See page 9)

Enter fiscal year beginning date

Month / Day / Year
Enter fiscal year ending date

Month / Day / Year

Were you required to pay estimated federal income tax for 2002? (See page 9) Yes No

- A. Filing status used on federal return:** 1. Single (Fill in only one) 2. Married filing joint return 3. Married filing separate return: Spouse's name 4. Head of household 5. Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child

- B. Residency status:** 1. Full-year resident (Fill in only one) 2. Full-year nonresident 3. Part-year resident **C. School district code:** (See page 17) **D. Income source code:** (See page 9)

Dept. use only: Composite return (CF)

E. Federal adjusted gross income from line 35 of Form 1040, line 21 of Form 1040A, line 4 of Form 1040EZ, or line I of TeleFile Tax Record (SX)

US Dollars

1. Federal taxable income from line 41 of Form 1040, line 27 of Form 1040A, line 6 of Form 1040EZ, or line K of TeleFile Tax Record (If zero, see page 9 of instructions) (SB) 1

Additions

2. Lump-sum distribution from Federal Form 4972 (NA) 2

3. Loss from pass-through entity subject to North Dakota's financial institution tax (Attach statement from entity) (NB) 3

4. Total additions. Add lines 2 and 3 4

5. Add lines 1 and 4 5

Subtractions

6. Interest from U.S. obligations (Attach supporting statement) (BN) 6

7. Net long-term capital gain exclusion (From worksheet on page 10 of instructions) (NC) 7

8. Exempt income of a Native American (B4) 8

9. Benefits received from U.S. Railroad Retirement Board (Attach copy of Form RRB-1099/RRB-1099-R, or both) (BS) 9

10. Income from pass-through entity subject to North Dakota's financial institution tax (Attach statement from entity) (SB) 10

11. Renaissance zone income exemption (Attach Schedule RZ) (B7) 11

12. Total subtractions. Add lines 6 through 11 12

13. North Dakota taxable income. Subtract line 12 from line 5. If less than zero, enter 0 (ND) 13

14. Tax: If full-year resident, enter amount from Tax Table on page 18 of instructions. If you have farm income, see page 11 of instructions. If part-year resident or full-year nonresident, enter amount from Schedule ND-1NR, line 22. (SB) 14

www.ndtaxdepartment.com

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Operator's Signature *Dorena Ball...*

Date 10/2/03

North Dakota Office of State Tax Commissioner
2002 Form ND-1, page 2



15. Enter your tax from line 14 of page 1		15			
edit for income tax paid to another state (Attach Schedule ND-1CR)	(SD) 16				
17. Family member care credit (Attach Schedule FC)	(S2) 17				
18. Renaissance zone credit (Attach Schedule RZ)	(S3) 18				
19. Agricultural commodity processing facility investment credit (Attach investment reporting form)	(NE) 19				
20. Credit for unused federal credit for prior year minimum tax (From worksheet on page 11 of instructions)	(NF) 20				
21. Qualified business seed capital investment credit (Attach investment reporting form)	(NG) 21				
22. Net tax liability. Subtract lines 16 through 21 from line 15. <i>If less than zero, enter 0</i>	(SS) 22				
Withholding and/or tax already paid					
23. North Dakota withholding (Attach supporting W-2s and 1099s)	(SP) 23				
24. Estimated tax paid plus overpayment applied from 2001 return	(SA) 24				
25. Total payments. Add lines 23 and 24		25			
● If line 25 is MORE than line 22, complete lines 26 through 30. ● If line 25 is LESS than line 22, complete lines 31 through 34.					
Refund					
26. Overpayment - If line 25 is MORE than line 22, subtract line 22 from line 25 and enter result; otherwise, go to line 31. <i>If result is less than \$5.00, enter 0</i>	(SQ) 26				
27. Amount of line 26 that you want applied to your 2003 estimated tax	(SQ) 27				
Amount of line 26 that you wish to contribute to the Watchable Wildlife Fund	(SP) 28				
29. Amount of line 26 that you wish to contribute to the Trees For ND Program Trust Fund	(SW) 29				
30. Refund. Subtract lines 27 through 29 from line 26. <i>If result is less than \$5.00, enter 0</i>	(SR) 30				
To direct deposit your refund, complete items a, b, and c. (See page 12.)					
a. Routing number:			c. Type of account:		
b. Account number:			<input type="radio"/> Checking		
			<input type="radio"/> Savings		
Tax Due					
31. Tax due - If line 25 is LESS than line 22, subtract line 25 from line 22 and enter result. <i>If result is less than \$5.00, enter 0</i>	(S2) 31				
32. Amount that you wish to contribute to the Watchable Wildlife Fund (but only if there is a tax due on line 31)	(SU) 32				
33. Amount that you wish to contribute to the Trees For ND Program Trust Fund (but only if there is a tax due on line 31)	(SV) 33				
34. Balance due. Add lines 31, 32, 33, and, if applicable, line 35. Pay to: North Dakota State Tax Commissioner		34			
35. Interest on underpaid estimated tax from Form 400-UT	(SO) 35				

I declare under the penalties of North Dakota Century Code §12.1-11-02, which provides for a Class A misdemeanor for making a false statement in a governmental matter, that this return, including any accompanying schedules and statements, has been examined by me, and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct, and complete return. Privacy Act - see inside front cover of booklet.

Your signature	Date	Your daytime phone number
Taxpayer's signature		Date
Signature of paid preparer	EIN/SSN/PTIN	Date

OPR <input type="radio"/>	Tax Department use only
<input type="radio"/>	

Attach a copy of your 2002 federal income tax return
Mail to: Office of State Tax Commissioner, 600 E. Boulevard Ave.,
Dept. 127, Bismarck, ND 58505-0550

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Dorinda Ball...
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

58TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

House Bill 1196 - "Relating to Elimination of Optional Contributions on Income Tax Returns for Nongame Wildlife Fund and Trees for ND Program Trust Fund"

House Finance and Taxation Committee

January 20, 2003

Testimony Submitted by:

Larry Kotchman, State Forester

Purpose:

Chairman Belter, members of the House Finance and Taxation Committee, my purpose in testifying this morning is to explain the history and background associated with section 57-38-34.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to "optional contributions on income tax returns for the Trees for North Dakota Trust Fund." House Bill 1196 will repeal this section for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002, eliminating the primary source of private donations for the trust fund. The donations are used exclusively for tree planting grants to establish living snow fences and family forests for the purpose of strengthening the tradition of annual tree planting and management throughout North Dakota.

Background:

The voluntary tax check-off originated with the Centennial Trees Program. In honor of the tree planting tradition started by the state's early pioneers, leaders of government, business and citizen groups selected planting 100 million trees as the focus for celebrating the 1989 state centennial. The program challenged every resident, community, organization and school to create a living legacy to serve as a lasting reminder for future generations to enjoy.

The 1995 Legislature abolished the Centennial Trees Commission as a unit of state government and placed the responsibility for administering the Centennial Trees Program with the North Dakota Forest Service. A seven-member Centennial Trees Advisory Committee was appointed by the Governor to work with the State Forester to promote tree planting. We complied with the Legislature's intent to finance the Centennial Trees Program through donations from the private sector. Funding was provided by the Centennial Trees Program Trust Fund, a special fund generated from voluntary contributions from individual tax returns and private donations.

The Centennial Trees Program and its goal of planting 100 million trees sunset on June 30, 2001. The Centennial Trees Advisory Committee, chaired by Lt. Governor Rosemarie Myrdal, recommended the State Forester introduce legislation during the 57th Legislative Assembly to continue the tax check-off for the development of new private and public tree planting partnerships. The 2001 legislation renamed the trust fund "Trees for North Dakota."

Trees for North Dakota:

"Trees for North Dakota" is an effective and creative granting mechanism for funding tree planting projects. The trust fund does not receive any state general funds and is supported by private grants and donations. The Legislature is responsible for appropriating spending authority for the trust funds to the State Forester.

The Community "Family Forest" Grant Program was created to honor each family in the state. Since 1996, 97 communities have received 186 Community "Family Forest" grants totaling \$175,729.65 from the trust fund. Following the blizzards of 1996-97, a "Living Snow Fence" grant component was added to protect interstate, state, county, tribal and township roads from blowing and drifting snow. The trust fund has contributed \$196,063.54 in private donations toward the establishment of 56 projects in 23 counties protecting nearly thirty miles of problem areas. Expenditures from the trust fund have totaled \$530,624.15 since July 1, 1995. None of the trust funds or grant funds have been expended on personnel or any indirect costs incurred by the North Dakota Forest Service in administering the program. The trust fund's balance as of December 31, 2002, is \$138,379.45.

The history of the Trees for North Dakota Program demonstrates that a successful state-wide tree planting effort requires strong partnerships and an adequate source of private donations for financial incentives. Public interest and private donations for tree planting remain strong, as evidenced by the 2,219 taxpayers who contributed \$17,022 in 2001. The program has helped North Dakotans raised annual tree planting accomplishments to over 6 million trees.

Tree planting is a part of North Dakota's past, its present and its future. "Trees for North Dakota" fulfills a strategic conservation need by protecting vital soil, water, air and wildlife resources. Maintaining the voluntary income tax check off for trees benefits all North Dakotans and enhances the quality of life in communities and on family farms and keeps our roads safe for winter travel.

We respectfully urge your continued support for the Trees for North Dakota Trust Fund and ask that the voluntary tax check-off for trees not be repealed.

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Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

Larry Kotchman- HB 1196

Please Support "TREES FOR NORTH DAKOTA" Enhance our Health, Safety and Economy

Tree planting is part of North Dakota's past, its present and its future. Planting the right trees in the right places can enhance the Health, Safety and the Economy of North Dakota.

HEALTH: "Trees Improve the Environment"

Water Quality - Trees planted in streamside areas, known as "riparian buffers," stabilize stream banks, prevent sedimentation and reduce downstream flooding. Riparian buffers function as filters to improve water quality and stabilize stream flow. Sedimentation of streams and water bodies has been labeled as the major source of non-point water pollution in the United States. This soil loss can be reduced by planting riparian buffers.

SAFETY: "Trees Protect North Dakota"

Living Snow Fences - Managing blowing snow is an annual problem in North Dakota. We are continually reminded that we cannot control the weather. Fortunately, tree planters can help make North Dakota roads safer during the winter by properly designing and planting living snow fences. A statewide Living Snow Fence Initiative establishes living snow fences to make North Dakota a safer place to live and reduce snow removal costs.

ECONOMY: "Trees are a Vital Part of Economic Development"

Quality of Life - Providing a quality environment is essential to attract and keep people in North Dakota. Trees make significant contributions to the quality of life, and play an important role in the economic well-being of North Dakota communities. More than half of North Dakota's residents live in cities and towns. They come in daily contact with shady city parks, tree-lined streets and yards landscaped with trees and shrubs. Parks, green spaces and trees affect our everyday moods, activities and emotional health.

Donations to the "Trees for North Dakota" trust fund help emphasize the role that tree planting plays in meeting social, economic and environmental needs of both rural and urban residents. To contribute, consult your tax preparer or enter a voluntary contribution on the 2002 North Dakota Individual Income Tax Return. On the ND-1, look for Line 29 on the *Overpayment Return* and Line 33 on the *Tax Due Return*. On the ND-2, use Line 19 on the *Overpayment Return* and Line 23 on the *Tax Due Return*.



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Deanna Hallmark
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

North Dakota Forest Service Trees For North Dakota Program Trust Fund Community "Family Forest" Accomplishments

Since 1996

Across North Dakota, 97 communities have received 186 "Family Forest" grants. Volunteer groups have planted 52,276 trees. The North Dakota Forest Service provided \$175,792.65 in grant funds for these projects.

Amidon	Harvey (2)	Pembina
Argusville	Hatton	Pettibone (2)
Arnegard	Hazen (4)	Plaza
Arvilla (5)	Hettinger	Portland
Beach (3)	Jamestown	Powers Lake
Berthold	Kensal	Regent
Beulah (2)	Lakota (2)	Riverdale (2)
Bismarck (2)	Lankin	Rolla (3)
Bottineau (4)	LaMoure (2)	Ross
Burlington (2)	Leeds	Sanborn
Calvin	Lincoln	Sawyer
Cando (2)	Linton	Sherwood
Cannon Ball	Lisbon (4)	Standing Rock (4)
Cavalier	Maddock (2)	Stanley
Center	Mandan (2)	Surrey
Cooperstown	Mandaree	Towner (3)
Crosby	Mapleton	Turtle Lake (2)
Des Lacs (5)	Medora	Underwood (3)
Devils Lake (3)	Menoken	Valley City
Drayton (3)	Milton (2)	Velva (4)
Edinburg	Minot (4)	Wahpeton (2)
Enderlin (3)	Minot AFB (5)	Walhalla (2)
Esmond (2)	Minto	Washburn
Fessenden	Mohall (3)	Watford City (5)
Fort Totten Historic Site	Mott (2)	West Fargo
Fort Yates	Napolean	Wheatland
Garrison (3)	Neche (3)	Whitman Reservoir
Glenburn	New England	Williston (4)
Goodrich (2)	New Rockford (2)	Willow City
Grafton (4)	New Town	Wilton (3)
Grandin	Northwood (2)	Wing
Granville (6)	Pekin (4)	Wishek

() Denotes the number of grants received by the community.

Prepared by: Larry Kotchman, State Forester, January 18, 2003

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Deanna Haldrup
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

**North Dakota Forest Service
Trees For North Dakota Program Trust Fund
"Living Snow Fence" Accomplishments**

Since 1998

Across North Dakota, 23 counties have initiated 56 projects.
Landowners have planted 104.8 miles of trees to protect 26.1 miles of roads.
The North Dakota Forest Service provided \$196,063.54 in grant funds for these projects.

Counties

1. Adams
2. Barnes
3. Benson
4. Bottineau
5. Burleigh
6. Cass
7. Divide
8. Dunn
9. Eddy
10. Emmons
11. Foster
12. Kidder
13. Mercer
14. McIntosh
15. McLean
16. Mountrail
17. Oliver
18. Pembina
19. Ramsey
20. Sioux
21. Stutsman
22. Walsh
23. Wells

Prepared by: Larry Kotchman, State Forester, January 18, 2003

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Dorena Ball...
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date