

**2023 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HB 1054**

# 2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1054  
1/5/2023

Relating to notary commissions.

Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 1:45pm.

Chairman Austen Schauer, Vice Chairmen Bernie Satrom, Reps. Landon Bahl, Claire Cory, Jeff A. Hoverson, Jorin Johnson, Karen Karls, Scott Louser, Carrie McLeod, Karen M. Rohr, Vicky Steiner, Steve Vetter, Mary Schneider. All present.

### Discussion Topics:

- Renewal of notary public commissions
- Commission term limits
- Notary expiration dates

Secretary of State Michael Howe introduced HB 1054 with supportive testimony (No.

12445). Beth Herzog, with the Secretary of State office, spoke in support of bill. Chairman

Schauer closed the hearing on HB 1054.

Rep. Hoverson moved a do pass on HB 1054.

Seconded by Rep. Bahl.

### Roll Call Vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Austen Schauer	Y
Representative Bernie Satrom	Y
Representative Landon Bahl	Y
Representative Claire Rep. Rohr	Y
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	Y
Representative Jorin Johnson	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Karen M. Rep. Rohr	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Steve Vetter	Y

Motion carried 13-0-0.

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

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Carried by Rep. Johnson.

Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting at 1:56pm.

*Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1054: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Schauer, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB  
1054 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

**2023 SENATE INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS**

**HB 1054**

# 2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Industry and Business Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HB 1054  
2/14/2023

A bill relating to notary commission.

9:37 AM Chairman D. Larsen called the meeting to order. Members present: Chairman D. Larsen, Vice Chairman Kessel, Senator Barta, Senator Klein, Senator Boehm.

### Discussion Topics:

- Notary commissions

9:37 AM Beth Herzog, Information Management Unit Administrator, North Dakota Secretary of State, testified in favor of HB 1054. #21196

9:44 AM Chairman D. Larsen closed the hearing on HB 1054.

9:45 AM Senator Boehm moved to DO PASS HB 1054.

9:45 AM Senator Kessel seconded the motion to DO PASS HB 1054.

Roll call vote:

Senators	Vote
Senator Doug Larsen	Y
Senator Greg Kessel	Y
Senator Jeff Barta	Y
Senator Keith Boehm	Y
Senator Jerry Klein	Y

Motion Passed 5-0-0

Senator Barta will carry the bill.

9:45 AM Chairman D. Larsen closed the meeting.

*Brenda Cook, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1054: Industry and Business Committee (Sen. Larsen, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1054 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

**TESTIMONY**

**HB 1054**



MICHAEL HOWE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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**House Bill 1054**  
**House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee**  
January 5, 2023

Chairman Schauer and members of the committee, my name is Michael Howe, and I am honored to serve as Secretary of State for North Dakota. I am here in support of HB1054 which relates to notary public commissions issued by my office. This change simply seeks to streamline the process to obtain or renew a notary public commission and clarify requirements for those seeking a renewal of a commission.

Passage of this bill would implement a form be used in the process to ensure all critical information is gathered to expedite an initial commission or renewal. The forms are available through FirstStop, the Secretary of State's online business and licensing system. It also adjusts the timeframe for a renewal of a commission to better serve notaries.

For the renewal of a notary public commission, the timeframe would be up to 60 days prior to the current expiration date. This timeframe limits the amount of time a notary public must maintain two stamping devices and minimizes the time between the date of the issuance of the new bond and the actual term of the notary public commission.

Each time a notary public renews his or her commission, a new stamping device must be obtained so that it includes the new expiration date of the commission. Often, when a notary public renews his or her commission, the current commission has not yet expired, and the new commission is not yet effective. Therefore, a notary public must use his or her current stamping device until it expires and begin using the new stamping device on the new commission start date. The 60-day timeframe limits the length of time a notary must still use the current stamping device.

A new surety bond is required when a notary public renews his or her commission. The surety bond is to cover notarial acts performed during the term of the commission. If a notary public submits a renewal far in advance, the date on the surety bond is further away from what would be the actual start date of the new commission. The 60-day timeframe ensures that the date of the surety bond is closer to the start date of the commission.

I request your support of HB1054 to better serve this important process. I am happy to take any questions you may have or defer them to a member of my capable team if needed.

MICHAEL HOWE  
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**House Bill 1054**  
**Senate Industry and Business Committee**  
February 14, 2023

Chairman Larsen and members of the committee, my name is Beth Herzog. I am the Information Management Unit Administrator for the Secretary of State and I am here in support of HB1054 which relates to notary public commissions issued by the Secretary of State's office. This change simply seeks to streamline the process to obtain or renew a notary public commission and clarify requirements for those seeking a renewal of a commission.

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