

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1215

2001 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HB 1215

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB1215

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 1-26-01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	xx		74--4798
1	xx		6136--end
1		xx	1--230
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Ann Owen</i>			

Minutes: Chair Froseth opened the hearing on HB1215 with all members present except Rep. Fairfield and Rep. Ekstrom.

Rep. DeKrey : This bill was worked together a few years back and didn't get on the governor's budget. It has a lot of merit and it should be considered again. This should at least get down to appropriations. We have 8 armories around the state. The bill would set up matching grant funds if the communities would fix up and maintain the armories, the state will match up to \$25,000. Every four years, we go through a review in Washington, D.C. and Congress looks at the military and sees what the needs are around the US. They look at the guard and the reserve. The guard is a good neighbor to us in ND. They look at is where units will be placed. They will look at the number of man power available, and also, if you have an adequate facility. The guard is a state function. The guard pays rent to cities for the armories. Sometimes the rent doesn't keep up with the maintenance costs. The more people we can sign in ND, the better we look. We need good armories to attract people.

John Dwyer, Officer in Nat'l Guard : I support this bill. There is a great need in the cities for what this bill can do. It will also sent a good signal to our troops that we care.

Connie Sprynczynatyk, ND League of Cities : (560) in support of HB1215. I have included a number of letters from mayors of cities around ND in my packet. (SEE ATTACHED)

Chair Froseth : What is the length of time most of the lease agreements are for?

Connie : I will let the general answer that. I can tell you that the economic impact to the city of Bismarck with the guard here is very, very great. It was estimated at \$60M impact. We are very proud of our relationship with the guard.

Greg Sund, City of Dickinson, Admin. : here in support of HB1215. (SEE ATTACHED) We really want to build a new armory. We have some money set aside for building in the future.

Vice-Chair Severson : Would the city consider remodeling if you don't get the grant?

Greg : We would have to one way or the other. This is a new grant program.

Charlie Kourajian, Mayor of Jamestown : (1220) Here in support of HB1215. The guard uses 5,000 sq. ft. of our civic center. The \$25,000 would be a great impact for Jamestown. We can't afford the upkeep, but we need the guard in Jamestown.

Harry Iverson, Grafton, ND : (1699) here in support of HB1215. (SEE ATTACHED)

Rep. N. Johnson : Do you know how many armories are in ND?

Harry : No, but I think it is 21.

Jonna H. Hochhalter, Mayor of Wishek : here in support of HB1215. (SEE ATTACHED) We need this help because our ranks are up and the facility is down and needs repairs.

Jim Matthiessen, Councilman, Jamestown, ND : here in support of HB1215. The \$25,000 will help keep up the repairs.

Vice-Chair Severson : What portion of your city budget is made up of the guard's rent money?

Jim : The national guard is a smaller portion. The city subsidizes the civic center for the most part. The rent does not give us enough to pay for repairs. We have a five year goal to prioritize all the repairs and upkeep we need.

Jeff Rotering, Hettinger City Attorney : (3286) here in support of HB1215. Our city just replaced the heating system and that was a huge expense. At city council meetings, it appears that the armory is a liability, because it is on the agenda every month. It is the responsibility of the city to pay for all repairs.

Rep. Disrud : If you don't have the guard in there anymore, will you still have the building?

Jeff : If the guard is gone, the city will give the building to the school. I don't know if the school would take it because of all the repairs it needs.

Ron Gagnus, National Guard Adj. General Office : I am neutral. Just here to answer questions. When the armories were constructed, we entered into a 25 year lease agreement with the cities with the option of another 25 years. Most of the armories were built in middle 1950's.

Vice-Chair Severson : Do you think you will extend those leases?

Ron : I believe so. The guard's presence is beneficial to all concerned. We have 19 community owned facilities that qualify for this grant. We have 6 state owned and state operated. I assume all of the communities will ask for grant.

Rep. Maragos moved a DO PASS and Rep. Herbel second.

**VOTE: 12 YES and 1 NO with 2 absent. BILL PASSED. Referred to Appropriations.**

Date: 1-26-01  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1715

House POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS Committee

☐ Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
☐ Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number refer to Approp

Action Taken Do Pass ↑

Motion Made By Rep. Maragos Seconded By Rep. Herbel

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Glen Froseth	/		Rep. Wayne W. Tieman	/	
Vice-Chair Dale C. Severson	/				
Rep. Lois Delmore	/				
Rep. Rachael Disrud	/				
Rep. Bruce Eckre	/				
Rep. Mary Ekstrom	AB				
Rep. April Fairfield	AB				
Rep. Michael Grosz		/			
Rep. Jane Gunter	/				
Rep. Gil Herbel	/				
Rep. Nancy Johnson	/				
Rep. William E. Kretschmar	/				
Rep. Carol A. Niemeier	/				
Rep. Andrew G. Maragos	/				

Total (Yes) 12 No 1

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Chair Froseth if needed.

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

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
January 26, 2001 10:42 a.m.

**Module No: HR-13-1689**  
**Carrier: Froseth**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1215: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Froseth, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE REREFERRED to the Appropriations Committee (12 YEAS, 1 NAY, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1215 was rereferred to the Appropriations Committee.**

2001 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1215



2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB1215A

House Appropriations Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 14, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		1107 - 1483
Committee Clerk Signature <i>L. L. Hansen</i>			

Minutes:

**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HEARING ON HB1215A.**

**Rep. Dekray:** HB1215 is a supplemental appropriation about what was in the governor's budget for matching grant program to counties and cities that have national guard armories in their towns. The reason I submitted the bill is that right now congress is going through the quadrennial defense review process and they take a look at the military from the bottom up top down and one of the things, or small things that gets looked at is the facilities in which we house our guard and reserve units and there is quite a problem out there in the states in our smaller cities that the armories are in pretty tough shape and I handed out a sheet that shows what the economic impact of those guard units in those cities are and if we start losing our armories because they are not functional any more, those are the kind of dollars we could be losing in those small communities and I think that anybody that has been in rural North Dakota lately can testify to the fact that we certainly don't need to lose any more dollars out there. The way the fund would work is if they

would match the \$25,000 the state would kick in \$25,000 for maintenance and repair of their armory and it would have to be approved by the Adjutant General they just couldn't go to fix something that they decided to do, they would have to be in conjunction with the guard. That's it, its pretty simply, I'm a realist I know about not having any money, but I do think that this is one of those things that should be kept alive if possible.

**Rep. Timm:** The guard itself doesn't have this money in their budget to do any of this type of work?

**Rep. Dekray:** The administration did not allow them to stick in their budget.

**Rep. Warner:** Can you define political subdivision a little better? Is this typically cities?

**Rep. Dekray:** It is typically cities but we do have an armory that is owned by a county and that's why we use the language of political subdivision instead of city. The original draft I had did have city in there but then when we realized that we had a county that owned an armory then we switched it to political subdivision and that's just to cover that one armory.

**Rep. Gulleason:** On your map, some of these are not political subs owned, some are still under the guard. Right?

**Rep. Dekray:** Yes, that is correct, the major cities and the new armories that we have in the major cities are actually owned by the federal government, so its the small rural areas that we are concerned about.

**Rep. Timm:** Any other questions of Rep. Dekray? Any other testimony in support of HB1215?

Any opposition to HB1215? Hearing on on HB1215 was closed.

**End committee hearing on HB1215A.**

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. **HB1215B**

House Appropriations Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date **February 14, 2001**

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	x		1430 - 1677
Committee Clerk Signature <i>L. F. Dauter</i>			

Minutes:

**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ACTION ON HB1215B.**

**Rep. Timm:** This is the bill that appropriates \$475,000 for armories. Moved by Rep. Skarphol,

Seconded by Rep. Carlisle for a DO NOT PASS. Any discussion? If not we will call the roll.

(5 ) YES ( 8 ) NO (8) absent and not voting. Motion failed and I'm going to hold this bill until we get the full committee.

**End committee action on HB1215B.**

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. **HB1215**

House Appropriations Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date **February 19, 2001**

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	4128 - 4888
Committee Clerk Signature			

Minutes:

**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS ACTION ON HB1215.**

**Rep. Timm:** This bill provides an appropriation to the Adjutant General's office for \$475,000 and puts out a \$25,000 grant per political subdivision to repair armories. I'm proposing an amendment that will cut that \$475,000 down to \$250,000, and Rep. Dekray says he wants to testify on that particular amendment.

**Rep. Dekray:** I certainly would support that amendment, its quite a cut from the 19 armories down to 10, but I think the situation in those small rural armories has gotten to the point where there is really a lot of maintenance work that needs to be done out there, and with the National Defense review going on right now, there is a movement in progress where they are trying to move these small armories to a larger towns where they have larger armories. I think that as far as the local citizen goes, the guys that are actually drilling in these armories is somewhere from a private to an E-4, and on a whole weekend he's probably making somewhere around \$150 to

Page 2  
House Appropriations Committee  
Bill/Resolution Number HB1215  
Hearing Date February 19, 2001

\$200 a month and if he has to drive to the major cities he is just not going to be in the guard, and the guard brings in \$30 million dollars a year in salaries alone to these small communities, and certainly is half of what it was, but I certainly can support it and would urge the committee to do so to.

**Rep. Timm:** I would appreciate a motion to adopt the amendment? Moved by Rep. Wald to adopt the amendment, seconded by Rep. Monson. Any discussion?

**Rep. Martinson:** Didn't we vote on this bill before? Yes, but no final action was taken.

**Rep. Wald:** A question for Rep. Dekray. Does this only apply to the state armories, and not the federal? Answer was yes.

**Rep. Timm:** Any other discussion on the amendment? All those in favor of adopting the amendment say AYE. Voice vote. Motion passes. Moved by Rep. Wald for a DO PASS as amended, Seconded by Rep. Monson. Any discussion on the bill? Roll Call vote taken.  
(16) YES (3) NO. (2) Absent and not voting. Motion passes. Rep. Wald will carry bill to the floor.

**End committee action on HB1215.**

10238.0201  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Representative Timm  
February 15, 2001

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1215

Page 1, line 5, replace "\$475,000" with "\$250,000"

Renumber accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

HOUSE - This amendment reduces the amount of funding to be provided to the Adjutant General for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories by \$225,000, from \$475,000 to \$250,000.

Date: 2/14/01  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1215B

House APPROPRIATIONS Committee

☐ Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
☐ Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken DO NOT PASS (FAILED)

Motion Made By SKARPHOL Seconded By CARLISLE

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Timm - Chairman	✓				
Wald - Vice Chairman					
Rep - Aarsvold		✓	Rep - Koppelman		✓
Rep - Boehm	✓		Rep - Martinson		✓
Rep - Byerly		✓	Rep - Monson		✓
Rep - Carlisle	✓		Rep - Skarphol	✓	
Rep - Delzer			Rep - Svedjan		
Rep - Glassheim		✓	Rep - Thoreson		✓
Rep - Gulleeson			Rep - Warner		
Rep - Huether		✓	Rep - Wentz	✓	
Rep - Kempenich					
Rep - Kerzman					
Rep - Kliniske					

Total (Yes) 5 No 8

Absent 8

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: 2/19/01  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1215

House APPROPRIATIONS Committee

☐ Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
☐ Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken DO PASS AS AMENDED

Motion Made By WALD Seconded By MONSON

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Timm - Chairman	✓				
Wald - Vice Chairman	✓				
Rep - Aarsvold	✓		Rep - Koppelman		
Rep - Boehm	✓		Rep - Martinson	✓	
Rep - Byerly	✓		Rep - Monson	✓	
Rep - Carlisle	✓		Rep - Skarphol		✓
Rep - Delzer		✓	Rep - Svedjan	✓	
Rep - Glassheim	✓		Rep - Thoreson	✓	
Rep - Gulletson	✓		Rep - Warner		✓
Rep - Huether	✓		Rep - Wentz	✓	
Rep - Kempenich	✓				
Rep - Kerzman	✓				
Rep - Kliniske	✓				

Total (Yes) 16 No 3

Absent 2

Floor Assignment R-P. WALD

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



2001 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HB 1215

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB1215

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 9, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		X	7.7-27.9
2	X		45.0-48.3
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mary Jo Wocken</i>			

Minutes:

The hearing was opened on HB1215, which relates to an appropriation to the adjutant general's office for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories. All senators were present except for Senator Lee who was absent.

REP.DEKREY: District 14. I placed House bill 1215 in front of you out of maintainance concerns for the National Guard. This is a piece of the budget that didn't make the governor's cut and I felt that it was important enough that I would bring it to the Legislature myself and put it before you and hope for your favorable recommendation. My greatest concern is that the military, we do, nation wide whats called a quadrennial review. And that process is undergoing right. One of the main things of course that they look at when they are determining a units viability is its facility. A lot of these small towns out there now, with their armories, its about all they have got going for them now. There maintance budgets available in their towns and the one armory that is owned by a county hasn't been able to keep up with the need. So I put this bill in

for additional funding. The bill started out with over \$400,000 and would have taken care matching grant fund of \$25,000 for all nineteen armories in the state. The House amended that down to ten armories at \$250,000 and I support that amendment. I understand that were under the budget restraints that we are, however, I do note that on the seventh of March that the projections for the state did come in positive. I still think the bill has an awful lot of merit and I would vote that this committee could pass it out and move it over to the Senate Appropriations Committee so they that it could become in the mix of bills with money at the end to see if it can be funded.

SENATOR FLAKOLL: In noting the potential amount of money was there a fiscal note in the House on this? REP. DEKREY: Yes, it was \$250,000, its \$25,000 for each of the ten armories.

SENATOR FLAKOLL: We didn't get one. REP. DEKREY: It was in the bill, in a nutshell.

\$25,000 matching grant funds. SENATOR FLAKOLL: How will the match work? I mean I understand from the states standpoint but, who provides the money to be matched? Is it? REP. DEKREY: The local entities, or township. It would be the local entity that would have to match the \$25,000. They would have to come up with \$25,000 to match the \$25,000 from the state. The project would have to be approved by the adjutant general to the property out there. They would have to say, that yes this would be a viable project. They couldn't just decide what they wanted to do and then come to the state for \$25,000. It would to go through an approval process.

SENATOR WATNE: This is normally a part of the National Guard's budget? REP. DEKREY: No, its not. SENATOR WATNE: Separate, were not establishing separate policy? REP.

DEKREY: Yes, this would be a program if you want to call it that, that would be something that hadn't been done before. It's been on the table sessions before this, but we've never been able to find the dollars to fund it. I brought back this session, I don't know if I had it in last session, but our small town armories, continue to deteriorate out there and the problem is getting worse and

worse. I know as a legislator since 1991, that we have taken steps in the past even in the higher education where we have gone in and we had fixed up buildings for NDSU specifically. I remember because I was on that, if I remember that bill. We went in above their budget and we fixed buildings up because we did not feel that those maintainance needs were being met and then by not taking care of those long term maintainance needs we were actually going to lose more money in the long run. My fear here is that we get the facilities to the point where somebody above North Dakota can just come in and say you know you really haven't got the facility to support this unit. That's my fear. Whether that's founded or not I don't know, that's my personal feeling. SENATOR MATHERN: So this is actually a prevention bill. REP. DEKREY: I think it is. SENATOR MATHERN: To maintain so we don't end up with spending more in the long run? REP. DEKREY: This isn't new construction. This is taking care of something that's already in place serving the public. SENATOR POLOVITZ: Does this mean the National Guard have their own budget? REP. DEKREY: Yes, it does. SENATOR POLOVITZ: And they don't have any maintainance in the budget? REP. DEKREY: Well they have maintainance in the budget, this is above what they have already put in their budget for maintainance. This is above the governors budget as I stated in the beginning. SENATOR FLAKOLL: These are ones that are owned by some political subdivisions as opposed to state government. REP. DEKREY: Eighteen of them are owned by local cities, towns and one of them is owned by a company. SENATOR FLAKOLL: I know there is originally more money in it, and it was kind of stripped away. And with the \$25,000 per, I understand that maybe not all of them will do that, but, how will it work in a scenario where say fifteen would be able to get a match. REP. DEKREY: It would be on a first come first serve basis and also a decision by the adjutant general which units were going to get that money. That was under the nineteen that

wasn't the problem, but that is just the way it would have be and we make those kinds of decisions in the guards every day. We're always short of money. I mean we're always short of funds. So I don't see it being a problem. SENATOR CHRISTENSON: Is there any private fund raising ever done on this behalf or is that contrary to the rules or? REP. DEKREY: No, these cities own these armories. They have had done things, cities do that thing normally out in small towns. There have there fund raisers and types of things like that because a lot of these buildings are mostly used facilities. The city would use them a lot more for than just the Guard, but, the Guard is the primary tenant and the primary caretaker. So, its' like everywhere else in the state, money is tight and especially so in small town, rural North Dakota. Fear for us out in the rural areas is that if our facilities deteriorate to the point where their non-usuable anymore then they are going to come into the major cities and we have a recruitment problem with that because we have been very successful out in rural North Dakota recruiting for the Guard. It's a lose, lose all the way around if we can't keep these viable. SENATOR POLOVITZ: Are you going to be able to raise \$25,000 in some of these little cities? REP. DEKREY: That is an honest question and some of the thinking that the House used when they amended it down to \$250,000 is the fact that just maybe not nineteen communities out there that can actually come up with the \$25,000 for the matching grant fund. But I am sure that at ten, there its not going to be a problem, and it also gives us the ability if the program goes through that it will give us two years to see how it works and if it was successful and let other cities see what can be done if they can work with the state. SENATOR FLAKOLL: I am just kind of curious on two. I happened to think about if you were trying to be tremendously efficient and get the most out of your dollar, is it possible for them also to take that money and the match and the money they get from the state and utilize it more efficiently by having another guard does special weekend or different programs where they can

repave the driveway or do whatever, is that possible? Can you coordinate that? REP. DEKREY:

We're heavily invested with engineers in North Dakota and I mean that is something we just in a matter of course of daily business we do it. We try to do as much for ourselves internally as we possibly can, and I am sure that would certainly be in the mix to leverage those dollars.

SENATOR POLOVITZ: When I was on tour we used to play from the university, our concerts in some of these in some of the towns. I have to say this that some of those were pretty bad shape. I'm saying how long are they going to last. It's going to come to a point where they either going to have to fix them or going to be, I don't know how they can meet some of the codes in some of the small towns. REP. DEKREY: People are pretty possessive of their Guard Unit in their city and I think that maybe there is some looking the other way sometimes when it comes to cost

because I've seen shower rooms I wouldn't to shower in. We're recruiting our best young men and women into the situation. I think the bill has merit. SENATOR COOK: Representative DeKrey, were these Guard buildings always owned by the political subs? REP. DEKREY: As far as I know, they were. I could be wrong there. SENATOR COOK: Originally built and paid for by the political subs? REP. DEKREY: I don't know as far as I know that is true but I don't know that for a fact. SENATOR COOK: Does the Guard pay rent to the political subs then? REP. DEKREY: Yes, they do. SENATOR POLOVITZ: In the city of Grand Forks we worked 50-50. I am pretty sure with our national guard building, but we called the civic center. But it wasn't totally owned, it was owned by businesses. REP. DEKREY: Some of these facilities are. If you would allow me I would like to read a letter from John Dwyer whose the volunteer lobbyist for the Enlisted Association and the Officers' Association for the National Guard asked me to read his short testimony. " For the record my name is John Dwyer serving as a volunteer legislative chairman for the Officer's and Enlisted Associations of the North Dakota National Guard. On

behalf of the Officers' and Enlisted Association I want to express our support for HB1215 as amended. Many of our states armories are in need of repair and it is critical that the men and women of North Dakota National Guard have facilities that provide adequate training environment. As amended HB 1215 would help ten armories and would be leverage by city funding so that \$50,000 could be spent in each of these facilities having the greatest need. Additionally the city/ state partnership provides a check and balance that ensures investment by the local political subdivision. While the fiscal situation in the state facing is difficult we would hope that the legislature could find the necessary dollars to address this critical need. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this statement of support to you. I regret I was unable to attend in person since I am out of town but I will be happy to return for questions as called by the chair.

JERRY HJELSMED: Spoke on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities. Connie Sprynczynatyk our Executive Director had prepared testimony to the committee. See attached written testimony. Also are letters from various cities who do host armories explaining their difficulties or funding difficulties that they face trying to maintain these armories. This particular program will be of assistance in helping with some of the repair projects that have been unable to afford to do. Right behind her letter in the front is a list of armories. I believe those are the armories that your talking about that shows the armories rentals that those facilities have received. If you look at the right hand column, I believe there is going to be a change in the Mandan and Grand Forks as to how their, how those are managed so it would be the other armories over on the right hand side that are receiving rentals, that would be the nineteen armories that your talking about that would be eligible to apply for these grant funds. We encourage a Do Pass on HB1215. SENATOR COOK: Well Jerry, I am assuming that the reason there is no income shown over here for Mandan is because the Guard isn't there anymore I think?

JERRY HJELMSTED: There is a change in the status of a couple of those, right. In tallying these up I noticed that there were twenty-one and then Grand Forks and Mandan had a change so I assume its the other nineteen that we're talking about. SENATOR MATHERN: Do you know if they are all community owned? JERRY HJELSTED: These particular armories, right, these would be the nineteen city owned armories, and I believe Rep. DeKrey maybe have one county in there as I couldn't find it on the list. These would be the ones. GREG SUND: Dickinson city Administrator. We are one of the nineteen cities impacted by this bill. Rental is provided for the National Guard doesn't nearly cover the operating costs to the armory let alone any of the repair or maintance to the facility. So we support this bill. Obviously, now its a competitive process. When the bill was first proposed it wasn't a competitive process. It generally provided funding for all nineteen cities and now it provides funding for ten cities. So. SENATOR WATNE: Since you work with the city and your city rep, are you allowed to raise those rents, is that. How are those rents spec? GREG SUND: I believe those are all just the standard rent paid by the state. They would be standard across the board. We do have the opportunity to rent the facility to other community groups though, however, that to doesn't bring in very much money. RON GANGNESS, Assistant Adjutant General with the Office of Adjutant General. Being a state agency we are supporting the governors budget. But I am here this morning not to testify on behalf or against HB1215 but then to answer any questions you or your committee may have regarding community army rentals as funded through our agency. SENATOR COOK: Was this \$450,000-475,000 in your original proposal to the governor? RON GANGNESS: No sir, it was not. SENATOR WATNE: Back to my first question to Mr. Sund, the rents that are paid by the National Guard to these armories to these cities. Is that a standard rent based on square footage or what is that formula, do you know? RON GANGNESS: It is a standard rent. Way back when



these armories were constructed originally, before my time, the process that was initiated it was that the National Guard contacted the communities and the communities agreed to fund 25% of the cost for that facility and the federal government contributed 75%. There was some state monies in there I don't know the exact amount. It was either around \$20,000 or \$40,000 depending on the situation. In exchange for that 25% cost share, the city would retain or get ownership of the building and grant to the National Guard a lease for a period of 50 years and a 25 renewable option for 25. Rental payments would be paid to the city based on legislative appropriations. All of the rents were pretty much standardized for the same type of armory. There are some differences, there are some smaller facilities that were not built under that particular program. We went in and the National Guard went in and leased the facility from the cities. I think the city of Cavalier is one, and its paid a lesser amount because it does not have the same type of square footage available to the unit as the armories that were built under that construction program. SENATOR WATNE: I am from Minot and I don't see Minot on the list. I know we have a beautiful new National Guard building, but the old armory that was adjacent and attached to the auditorium has that now reverted, do you know to city ownership completely and not rented. I wondered why it isn't subject to this funding it needs repairs? RON GANGNESS: The city of Minot, about 1989, we built an Armed Forces Reserve Center which was 100% federally funded. It was some state funds in it to support a few of the items but for all purposes it was basically 100% federally funded. We then moved out of the community owned armory at Minot and it was then turned over to the city, or we gave up our lease basically, they had owned the building under the construction program and it now belong to the city of Minot and would not be covered by this bill because we have no interest in that particular building. SENATOR FLAKOLL: This will, I am flying with everything, I would be curious if you could get your

hands on and supply us with just a list of these particular armories that were dealing with and the date when they were originally constructed. I think it would be kind of interesting information because I realize that they are not all the same age but it would some nice background data. I don't know if that is possible or not? RON GANGNESS: The list that you got from the League of Cities that had the rentals, does have all the armories on it that we're addressing here.

SENATOR FLAKOLL: Right! RON GANGNESS: Predominately, probably 90% of those were built in the late 1950's. There are some on their, the ones that have the lessor amounts for rental that were not built by the guard but were city buildings that were furnished to us. SENATOR

FLAKOLL: That will work for me then. RON GANGNESS: Okay, the only exception to that is Dickinson which was built in about 1970 I believe. But all of the rest are, and Jamestown was a fairly new one, its in the Civic Center there. That was built in about 1970 era, but all the rest I would say for general purpose would be the late 1950's, but I certainly can get you the exact

date. SENATOR COOK: Ron is this an continuing appropriation or is in the adjutant generals budget every session? RON GANGNESS: The grant line item? SENATOR COOK: Yes. RON GANGNESS: Yes sir, the rentals are always in the adjutant generals line item. Maybe it might be interesting to note why we're at the low level that were at for army rentals. From 1986 were at 23% at a less rental payment today than we were at 1986. And that is adding to some of the frustration and the problems that the cities are having. That was due to a number of things. In the 1987-1989 biennium we got reduced 2%, in the 1989-1991 biennium due to a referral vote we got reduced 8.4% and this was a reduction across our general fund availability throughout our entire budget and we applied that percentage of reduction equally among all line items that we did have. Then started the process in 1991-95 era that the executive recommendation from the governors office to close armories, vacate armories. The Legislature decided that we would not

close armories, however, unfortunately when the budgets were proposed the rentals were taken out. So it became a share and share alike when you've got to keeping the armories open but you have less money. And so there started the downward spiral of our rental incomes. That is why we are where we at today with the 23% less amount of money to repair armory rentals. I might point out that we in previous bienniums, in 97-99' we tried, or we proposed in our optional adjustment package for \$500,000 for maintainance repair on the same process. It was a \$25,000 match, it did not make it through the governors budget. In 99-01' we tried to increase rentals by 20%, we tried to get back up to the 1986 level and were unable to get through the recommendation and of course money is tight and those were some of the things we were fighting back in those eras to assist the city. SENATOR COOK: The biggest challenge then is to find a friend in appropriation that is going to touch this.

Hearing Closed on HB1215.

**March 9, 2001 (Tape 2, Side A, Meter # 45.0-48.3)**

Senator Watne moved a Do Pass and Re-refer to Appropriations

Senator Mathern-2nd

Roll call vote: 7/0/1

Carrier: Senator Flakoll

Date: May 9  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. H. B. 1215

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
☐ Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Pass & Refer

Motion Made By Sen. Watne Seconded By Sen. Mathern

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Cook	✓		Senator Christenson	✓	
Senator Lyson	✓		Senator Mathern	✓	
Senator Flakoll	✓		Senator Polovitz	✓	
Senator Lee					
Senator Watne	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Sen. Flakoll

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

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
**March 13, 2001 1:55 p.m.**

**Module No: SR-43-5492**  
**Carrier: Flakoll**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1215, as engrossed: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Cook, Chairman)**  
**recommends DO PASS and BE REREFERRED to the Appropriations Committee**  
**(7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1215 was**  
**rereferred to the Appropriations Committee.**

2001 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS  
HB 1215

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL RESOLUTION NO. HB1215

Senate Appropriations Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 20, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
Tape #1	X		16.3 - 33.9
Committee Clerk Signature <i>James R. Dutton</i>			

Minutes:

Senator Nething opened the hearing on HB1215.

Representative Duane DeKrey, District 14 - Pettibone, one of the primary sponsors spoke in support of HB1215. He indicated a need for maintenance of the armories --- the armories are used as a state function -- believes the state should pay its share -- there is a backlog of needed repairs, which were deferred due to other expenses and shortages in budgets.

Senator Nething: Bill indicates up to 25 thousand --- how did the sum of 250 thousand come to be?

Representative DeKrey: Original thought was 25 thousand per armory -- times 19 armories --- for a total of 475 thousand; the House amended 475 thousand to 250 thousand. This is an ongoing process -- could take care of 10 armories up to 25 thousand each.

Senator Nething: Idea of costs? When other entities come in requesting maintenance dollars they have estimates etc available for us to consider.

Representative DeKrey: We have talked to several city mayors- who have indicated a problem, but no total cost dollars expressed; The Bill would allow expenditures up to 250 thousand total.

Senator Heitkamp: How would one decide which armory needed the repairs? Would this money just go to the bigger ones -- leave the rural ones out?

Representative DeKrey: It would be on a first come; first serve basis -- final decisions being done by the office of the adjutant general.

Senator Thane: Could armories such as the one in Wahpeton be eligible to apply -- even though they no longer use the armory?

Representative DeKrey: That decision is above my grade -- would guess that a request such as that would be moved to a low priority, if accepted at all.

John Dwyer (Lobbyist #075), National Guard Association of North Dakota, Inc. Spoke in support of the bill. The armories are in need of repair; this would help at least ten -- like to see more dollars added; important to support those who defend America in time of need --- and the city and state are in full partnership here.

Senator Nething: Does the Guard have a construction/ maintenance program?

John Dwyer: Not that I'm aware of -- have used rent dollars for maintenance in the past -- but understand that sum is being eliminated from the budgets.

Ron Gangness, Adjutant General's Office: Guard has paid rental sums; it has been up to the local community to do the maintenance so maintenance has been a community decision.

Senator Solberg: Haven't we had this bill before?

Ron Gangness: Two sessions ago --- failed; was for 500 thousand.



Senator Heitkamp: District 27, Hankinson; and sponsor of HB1215 -- spoke in support of the bill. He distributed map copies of the North Dakota National Guard Projected Economic Impact ( a copy is attached). This shows the rural, local areas that are involved.

Senator Bowman: When the community enters into an agreement with the Guard -- isn't there a responsibility? A need to honor it and not let the buildings go to neglect.

Senator Heitkamp: Respectfully disagree. The level of responsibility is with the city and community --- to match local area dollars. The burden is on both sides -- there will be nothing from the state if the local doesn't come up with the match.

Connie Sprynczynatyk, Executive Director of the North Dakota League of Cities (Lobbyist # 057), testified in support ( a copy of her written testimony is attached).

Representative Ralph Metcalf, District 24 - Valley City, one of the Bill sponsors spoke in support of the bill. He has served 42 years in the national guard --- believes rental in the past was something like one thousand a year ---hardly enough to pay the lights and heat. Demand has changed, utilities increased --- many of the armories were used for community activities but now exclusively by the national guard -- again due to the change of demands.

Ron Gangness: There has been a rental decrease -- grant appropriation from the federal government.

Senator Bowman: Should this then be a problem for the federal legislators to solve -- we here in North Dakota the wrong people to talk to?

Ron Gangness: Agree, but not a lot we can do -- the program was set up years ago as community based defense.

Senator Bowman: We do? Maintenance? Contracts? Need to address the 23% decrease?

Page 4  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Bill/Resolution Number HB1215  
Hearing Date March 20, 2001

Ron Gangness: Legislative appropriation decrease not by the federal government --- the issue is being addressed.

Senator Andrist: Are all armories set in place? Long-term? Plans for expansion? Where and how will that be established?

Ron Gangness: No move afoot to close any existing armories. No process ongoing regarding increases or decreases in number of armories.

3-29-01 Full Committee Action (Tape #2, Side A, Meter # 5.3 - 8.2)

Senator Nothing reopened the hearing on HB1215 - Provide appropriation to the Adjutant General's Office for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories.

Senator Nothing reviewed the bill, and presented amendment (10238.0301) which were the results of the hearing discussion previously. Discussion on the amendments.

Senator Tallackson moved the adoption of the amendments; seconded by Senator Robinson. Discussion; call for the vote: voice vote, motion carried. Discussion on the bill.

Senator Heitkamp moved DO PASS AS AMENDED; seconded by Senator Andrist. Discussion; call for the vote: Roll Call Vote: 14 yes; 0 no; 0 absent and not voting.

Senator Heitkamp accepted the floor assignment for the amendment; bill assignment to Senator Flakoll - the referring committee member.

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1215

Senate Appropriations Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 29, 2001 (Committee Work)

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	X		5.3-8.2
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Debra Shorenk</i>			

Minutes:

Committee Work - verbatim from tape - per request from Rep. DeKrey on 4/3/01.

Senator Nething: On HB 1215-on the Armory I want to give you the proposed amendments.

The amendment that is being distributed adds language to the bill that requires some kind of priority to this process without naming communities as such and keep in mind that the four large cities are not involved in this, because they are not armories that would qualify for these funds. But basically if those priority be given to those major maintenance and repair projects, the local political subdivision contributes the highest ratio of political subdivision funds for each and then it directs the adjutant general to conduct a major maintenance and repair needs survey and to report to the budget section of their project recommendation. So we are asking them basically to get the survey done, tell us what the priority is and then come to the budget section with the report so that everybody is kept inform.

Senator Tomac: Mr. Chairman this doesn't remove the \$25,000 cap?

Senator Nething: No, it has nothing to do with the cap.

Senator Tomac: It says that if we have more than ten of these, that might need some help, so then the communities that come up with the most match money are going to get it first.

Senator Nething: That's right. That is going to be the priority.

Senator Nothing: Senator Tallackson moved the amendments, seconded by Senator Robinson. Any discussion? Senator Heitkamp you've had a chance to look this over, I'm fine Mr. Chairman.

All in favor of the amendment say Yea, motion carried.

Senator Nething: We are now on the bill as amended; Senator Heitkamp moves the bill, Senator Andrist second. Further discussion, hearing none the clerk will take the role: Sen. Nething Yes; Sen. Solberg Yes; Sen. Schobinger Yes; Sen. Lindaas Yes; Sen. Tallackson Yes; Sen. Robinson Yes; Sen. Tomac Yes; Sen. Heitkamp Yes; Sen. Grindberg Yes; Sen. Thane Yes; Sen. Kringstad Yes; Sen. Holmberg Yes; Sen. Bowman Yes; Sen. Andrist Yes. Vote 14-0 Senator Heitkamp would follow through with Senator Flakoll and make sure that he understands the amendments and then we will refer it to him.

Senator Heitkamp: I sure will. Do you want me to carry the amendments up the floor with the bill or how do you want that done?

Senator Nething: Why don't the two of you work it out, that would be fine.

10238.0301  
Title. *0400*  
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Nething  
March 27, 2001

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1215

Page 1, line 1, replace "providing" with "to provide"

Page 1, line 2, after "armories" insert "and to provide a report to the budget section"

Page 1, line 4, after "**APPROPRIATION**" insert "**AND BUDGET SECTION REPORT**"

Page 1, line 10, after the period insert "Priority shall be given to those major maintenance and repair projects where the local political subdivision contributes the highest ratio of political subdivision funds for each dollar of state funds requested. Prior to approval of any project by the adjutant general under the matching grant program, the adjutant general shall conduct a major repair and maintenance needs survey of all political subdivision-owned armories and provide a written report of the survey results and project recommendations for the biennium to the budget section of the legislative council."

Renumber accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

**House Bill No. 1215 - Adjutant General - Senate Action**

This amendment adds language to the bill that requires priority to be given to those major maintenance and repair projects where the local political subdivision contributes the highest ratio of political subdivision funds for each dollar of state funds and directs the Adjutant General to conduct a major maintenance and repair needs survey and to report to the budget section of the Legislative Council on project recommendations.

Date: 3-26-01

Roll Call Vote #: \_\_\_\_\_

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1215

Senate Appropriations Committee

☐ Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or

☐ Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 10238.03:1

Action Taken As per amendment

Motion Made By Senator Heitkamp Seconded By Senator Indurkhya

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Dave Nothing, Chairman	✓				
Ken Solberg, Vice-Chairman	✓				
Randy A. Schobinger	✓				
Elroy N. Lindaas	✓				
Harvey Tallackson	✓				
Larry J. Robinson	✓				
Steven W. Tomac	✓				
Joel C. Heitkamp	✓				
Tony Grindberg	✓				
Russell T. Thane	✓				
Ed Kringstad	✓				
Ray Holmberg	✓				
Bill Bowman	✓				
John M. Andrist	✓				

Total Yes 14 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Heitkamp Indurkhya

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

Yup for  
Jim Heitkamp

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

HB 1215, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Nething, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1215 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, replace "providing" with "to provide"

Page 1, line 2, after "armories" insert "and to provide a report to the budget section"

Page 1, line 4, after "**APPROPRIATION**" insert "**AND BUDGET SECTION REPORT**"

Page 1, line 10, after the period insert "Priority must be given to those major maintenance and repair projects for which the local political subdivision contributes the highest ratio of political subdivision funds for each dollar of state funds requested. Before approval of any project by the adjutant general under the matching grant program, the adjutant general shall conduct a major repair and maintenance needs survey of all political subdivision-owned armories and provide a written report of the survey results and project recommendations for the biennium to the budget section of the legislative council."

Renumber accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

**House Bill No. 1215 - Adjutant General - Senate Action**

This amendment adds language to the bill that requires priority to be given to those major maintenance and repair projects where the local political subdivision contributes the highest ratio of political subdivision funds for each dollar of state funds and directs the Adjutant General to conduct a major maintenance and repair needs survey and to report to the budget section of the Legislative Council on project recommendations.

2001 TESTIMONY

HB 1215



1710 Burnt Boat Drive  
PO Box 2235  
Bismarck, ND 58502-2235



Phone: (701) 223-3518  
Fax: (701) 223-5174  
Web: [www.ndlc.org](http://www.ndlc.org)

## *North Dakota League of Cities*

January 26, 2001

To: Chairman Froseth and the House Political Subdivisions Committee  
Regarding: House Bill No. 1215

I am pleased, on behalf of our member cities that host an armory, to support HB 1215.

As you will note from the attached letters and from the testimony that will be presented today by several city representatives, these host cities have enjoyed a beneficial partnership with the North Dakota National Guard. City leaders both understand and appreciate the benefits of this partnership, but they've also asked me to convey some of the funding difficulties they face.

The attached testimony explains their plight and their desire to work with you on solutions to maintenance, repair and renovation challenges.

Thank you for your support of HB 1215.

Connie Sprynczynatyk  
Executive Director

# OFFICE OF ADJUTANT GENERAL

## COMMUNITY ARMORY RENTALS

CITY	95-97 BIENNIUM(ACTUALS)		97-99 BIENNIUM(ACTUALS)		99-01 BIENNIUM (ACTUALS)		01-03 BIENNIUM (PROJECTIONS)	
	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
BOTTINEAU	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
CANDO	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
CARRINGTON	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
CAVALIER	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20
DICKINSON	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
EDGELY	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
GRAFTON	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
GRAND FORKS	\$ 7,404.80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
HAZEN	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20	\$ 6,479.20
HETTINGER	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
JAMESTOWN	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
LISBON	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
MANDAN	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MAYVILLE	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
MOTT	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
OAKES	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
RUGBY	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
VALLEY CITY	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40	\$ 12,958.40
WAHPETON	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
WILLISTON	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
WISHEK	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00	\$ 9,256.00
TOTAL	\$190,673.60	\$ 183,268.80	\$ 177,612.80	\$ 177,612.80	\$ 175,812.80	\$ 174,012.80	\$ 174,012.80	\$ 174,012.80

**CITY OF MOTT**  
**202 E 3<sup>RD</sup> ST**  
**MOTT, ND 58646**  
**(701) 824-2163**

January 24, 2001

To: Representative Froseth and the House Political Subdivisions Committee  
Regarding: House Bill No. 1215

The Mott armory is a center for various activities for the Mott community. It is home to the National Guard, as well as various school and community activities.

Funding for the upkeep comes from the Adjutant General, the school, and the city itself. Our problem is that the funds received don't cover the cost of the maintenance level that the armory needs and deserves.

Our armory is in dire need of becoming handicap accessible. The cost of the renovation is very expensive as doors; bathroom and shower area will have to be changed to comply.

The windows in the armory are in need of replacement, as the frames for them are deteriorating. They are the original windows when built.

We try with funds available to do the repairs as best we can, but we have only a part-time maintenance person to keep up with work in the building.

Please pass the House Bill No. 1215 to help our communities preserve our North Dakota city armories.

Sincerely;



Al John  
Mayor, City of Mott

Ervin Wolf  
Council Member & Pres. Armory Board



# *City of Oakes North Dakota*

City Hall, 115 South 5th Street, Oakes 58474 701-742-2137

January 24, 2001

RE: HB 1215  
Armory & Maintenance Repair Funding.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Armory in Oakes is an extremely important asset to our community. It houses our fine National Guard Unit and is also a much needed recreation area for young and old. The armory is used from everything pre-school gymnastics to a walking area for our older citizens. Unfortunately, the cost of maintaining this facility is much more than the revenue we take in each month. We are currently looking for ways to finance a much needed roof replacement.

In June our citizens made a loud statement on the importance of this facility by overwhelmingly voting in a 2-mil increase to go to maintenance of the armory. This mil levy will only bring in about \$2500.00, but every little bit counts when we are struggling to keep the facility viable.

If there were a possibility of obtaining a matching grant, it truly would be an answer to prayer. This is not money that would be frivolously spent, but it is money that is needed to take of the basic needs of this very important facility.

I personally would recommend that you vote for this measure. I have also visited with the members of our "Public Buildings Portfolio" and they also strongly recommend passage of this measure.

Thank you for taking the time to investigate ways of financially helping us out, in helping to try maintain our quality of life in a small town.

Yours truly,



Dave Ross  
Mayor of Oakes



115 West 6 Street  
Bottineau, ND 58318-1393  
Phone: (701) 228-~~8221~~ 3232  
FAX (701) 228-2543

1-22-01

ND League of Cities  
1710 Burnt Boat Drive  
Bismarck ND 58502-2235

Dear Connie;

The City of Bottineau is in full support of proposed House Bill #1215, regarding matching grants to City-owned Armories.

Our Armory currently houses the City Offices, City & Rural Fire Depts., National Guard, Girl Scouts and ND Drivers License Site on a on-going basis. Several community events are also held at the Armory making this building an important part of our town.

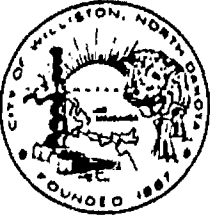
Each year the City of Bottineau spends appx. \$40,000.00 on regular maintenance of our Armory. This money is generally spent on electricity, heating and cleaning. Major repairs, in the past have at times, come from other revenue sources. The Armory Fund would have a negative balance at the end of each year if it were not for assistance from other funds.

There is a definite need for future funding to assist with some major repairs, such as a re-roofing project. This bill for matching grants would be a great help to our Armory.

Thank you for your time!

For the City of Bottineau,

Penny J. Nostdahl, City Auditor



POST OFFICE BOX 1306  
WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA 58802-1306  
PHONE (701) 572-8161  
FAX (701) 572-8880  
TDD (800) 366-6888  
(State Relay)

CITY OF *Williston* NORTH DAKOTA

January 24, 2001

House Political Subdivisions Committee  
State Capitol  
Bismarck ND 58505

RE: HB 1215

Dear Committee Members:

The City of Williston is very pleased to see HB 1215 which would allow a matching grant of \$25,000 for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories.

Williston's armory was built in the early 1960s. A building of this age requires considerable maintenance and the City has not been able to budget for all of the necessary improvements. The rental received from the Office of Adjutant General has, in fact, decreased from \$12,000 annually in 1985 to \$9,256, which is projected for the next biennium and has remained constant for the last several years.

There are many renovations that we would like to make in the National Guard area of the building, and such a grant would mean the difference between a band-aid approach and an actual improvement to the area. The Williston City Commission asks that you recommend passage of HB 1215 to allow our cities to improve these facilities that are so important to the North Dakota National Guard and their training.

Sincerely,

E. Ward Koeser  
President, Board of City Commissioners

EWK:sk

**Gary Friez**

808 N 3RD ST  
PO BOX 1101  
HETTINGER, ND 58639-1101

Home Phone 701 567-2822  
Email bigwhite@pop.attol.com

January 25, 2000

To: Connie Sprynczynatyk, North Dakota League of Cities  
From: Gary Friez, Mayor of Hettinger  
Subject: Support for HB 1215

Since I am unable to attend the hearing, I would appreciate if you would present the following on my behalf.

I urge the House Political Subdivisions Committee to recommend passage of HB 1215 providing an appropriation for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories.

Maintaining and updating the armory to meet code is an expensive item for our city. Financially it would greatly benefit Hettinger as well as other cities owning armories, if matching grants were available for the 2001-2003 biennium.

Sincerely,

Gary Friez, Mayor of Hettinger



**CITY OF VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA  
P. O. BOX 390  
VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA 58072**

January 25, 2001

Representative Glen Froseth  
Chairman, House Political Subdivision Committee  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: House Bill 1215

The city of Valley City supports House Bill 1215; a bill providing an appropriation to the Adjutant General's Office for the maintenance and repairs of political subdivisions owned armories.

Please find attached on the page a five-year history of revenues and expenses for the city's National Guard Armory Building in Valley City. The expenses have exceeded the revenues in each of the past five years.

Additional information that I have provided is the annual utility bill for the armory building and a comparison of rent paid to the city by the National Guard. In reviewing these numbers, this leaves very little money to use for major improvements or repairs to the Armory building.

By providing up to \$25,000 in funds for major projects, the city would undertake several projects as funds are available.

Projects to be done are renovation of the kitchen area; replace tile floor, painting of hallways, assembly area, and offices and replacement of heating/air exchange units in the office areas.

The city of Valley City appreciates the National Guard having a facility in Valley City. They are a valuable asset to the community in times of an emergency, such as the recent flooding that has occurred in Valley City during the 90s.

We would ask that your committee recommend a do pass for House Bill 1215

Riley Rogers, Mayor





# CITY OF VALLEY CITY NATIONAL GUARD BUILDING

## REVENUE

1996	\$ 13,618.40
1997	\$ 14,278.40
1998	\$ 14,558.40
1999	\$ 14,688.40
2000	\$ 16,008.40

TOTAL	\$ 73,132.00
-------	--------------

## EXPENSES

1996	\$ 22,932.86
1997	\$ 21,847.63
1998	\$ 23,152.20
1999	\$ 20,547.01
2000	\$ 19,975.39

\$ 108,455.19
---------------

DEFICIT
(35,323.19)

## UTILITY BILL

1996	\$ 17,044.97
1997	\$ 15,084.43
1998	\$ 13,125.83
1999	\$ 13,947.26
2000	\$ 11,834.09

TOTAL	\$ 71,036.58
-------	--------------

## GUARD FUNDS

1996	\$ 12,958.40
1997	\$ 12,958.40
1998	\$ 12,958.40
1999	\$ 12,958.40
2000	\$ 12,958.40

\$ 64,792.00
--------------

1-2-01

**Testimony in Support of HB 1215**

A Bill for an Act providing an appropriation to the adjutant general's office for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories

Greg Sund  
City Administrator  
City of Dickinson, ND

My name is Greg Sund. I am the Dickinson City Administrator. Dickinson is one of the communities that would be affected by this bill. Dickinson owns and maintains the Dickinson Armory.

Dickinson has been anticipating the possibility of a new armory for several years, ~~but budget restrictions~~. However we understand recent federal priorities placed construction of new armories lower on the list than other items. According to recent conversations, the earliest Dickinson could anticipate a new armory is 2008. For this reason, we have need to address the needs of the current armory rather than simply waiting for construction of a new building.

The cost of the operation and maintenance of this building far exceeds the lease payments coming from the North Dakota National Guard and the miscellaneous rental revenue of the Dickinson Armory. Dickinson receives \$9,256 per year from the state of North Dakota for the National Guard lease. In addition, we receive a limited amount of money from leasing portions of the facility for recreation and special functions. For instance, in 2000 the city of Dickinson received revenue of \$3,740 for recreational programs and miscellaneous rentals. Total revenues in 2000 from the National Guard lease and miscellaneous rentals were \$12,996. The operation and maintenance costs in 2000 were \$25,850, almost double the actual revenue.

In recent years, the City laid new asphalt in the parking lot and completed ADA related improvements. However, we are also faced with other considerable major repair and update needs for the Dickinson Armory. Some of these needs are:

1. Replacement of the roof. The current roof is 15 years old and the City currently expends \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year in roof maintenance activities.
2. The boiler system is outdated and in need of replacement at an estimated cost of \$8,000 to \$10,000.
3. Work is needed on the building air exchangers at an estimated cost of \$5,000.
4. Concrete outside building is heaving and must be replaced at an estimated cost of \$2,500.
5. Fluorescent lights are in need of replacement at an estimated cost of \$2,600.
6. The flooring in the commons area needs to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$6,500.
7. Replacement of wall covering is needed in the drill area to improve energy efficiency at an estimated cost of \$15,000.

The city of Dickinson encourages the Legislature to pass HB 1215 to assist Dickinson and the other cities with armories do the repair and maintenance needed.

Greg Sund



"Fred Stark"  
<mayor@graftongov.com>

To: <jkingsbu@state.nd.us>  
cc:  
Subject: HB 1215

01/24/01 02:16 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to address you regarding proposed HB 1215 which would establish a matching grant program for armory maintenance.

Major repair projects needed for the Grafton Armory in the next five years include replacing windows, floor tile and bathroom facilities. The outside of the building needs tuckpointing and the material on the barrel roof will need replacement. The National Guard offices are original to the building which was built in 1955.

The National Guard pays \$9,256 per year to lease a portion of the building. That with the City mill levy of \$15,000 and miscellaneous rentals, provides an operating budget of \$35,000.

There is nothing available for major repairs.

We urge your support of HB 1215 to provide communities with the responsibility of maintaining armories a funding source for major repairs needed by these building.

Thank you for your support.

Mayor Fred M. Stark  
Grafton, ND

# CITY OF WISHEK

CITY HALL  
P.O. BOX 306  
WISHEK, ND 58495  
PHONE 701-452-2567  
FAX 701-452-0173

JONNA H. HOCHHALTER MAYOR  
SANDY PAULUS, AUDITOR/TREASURER  
TOM WELDER, CHIEF OF POLICE

CITY COUNCIL  
PRESIDENT, VIC VILHAUER  
VICE PRESIDENT, LAVERN

PERRY TURNER, JUDGE

BLINSKY

LARRY WALD  
LILLIAN

DEMPSEY

ALLEN FINGER

TO: FIFTY-SEVENTH  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
OF NORTH DAKOTA

FROM: CITY OF WISHEK

DATE: JANUARY 23, 2001

SUBJECT: HOUSE BILL NO. 1215

The amount allocated for the Wishek Armory in 1985-1986 was \$12,000.00, since then the allocation had decreased to \$ 9,256.00.

This amount set in September of 1993 does not reflect the increase cost of the actual needs for maintenance, renovation and repair.

Listed here are the needs in the order of urgency.

## EXTERIOR:

1. ROOF

2. WINDOWS

3. DOORS

A REAR OVERHEAD DOOR

B. REAR SECURITY DOOR (2)

C. OUTSIDE KITCHEN DOOR

4. DRILL FLOOR

5. CENTRAL AIR CONDITION FOR CLASSROOMS, LIBRARY AND OFFICES

INTERIOR:

1. SHOWERS
2. BATHROOMS
3. URINALS
4. SINKS
5. PUBLIC HANDYCAP PUBLIC ACCISABILITY BATHROOMS
6. PAINTING ROOMS
7. UPGRADE LIGHTING SYSTEM

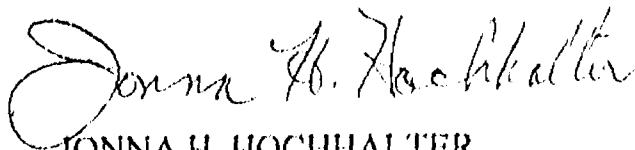
City and School cost sharing for repairing armory roof in 1986. \$26,366.68

City expenses in 1995 for renovation and repair. \$2,276.12

City expenses in 1999 for renovation and repair. \$1,265.16

SCHOOL ARMORY EXPENSES SINCE 1993 SEE ATTACHED SHEET.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



JONNA H. HOCHHALTER  
MAYOR  
CITY OF WISHEK

WISHEK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #19  
ARMORY EXPENDITURES

YEAR	WATER & SEWER	FUEL	ELECTRICITY	FURNACE REPLACE- MENT	FURNACE REPAIRS & OTHER REPAIRS	TANK DUG UP	SERVICE AGREEMENT
'93-'94	261.00	7,014.79	4,236.18	29,550.00	656.25		1,764.00 = 43,552.22
'94-'95	249.00	6,563.43	4,677.22		579.10		1,480.96 = 13,549.71
'95-'96	297.00	2,264.03	5,629.12		550.00		1,548.95 = 10,289.10
'96-'97	327.00	12,983.44	8,261.69		2959.05		1,617.00 = 34,148.18
'97-'98	315.00	5,404.98	2,877.52		5438.41		1,698.96 = 15,734.87
'98-'99	320.88	5,747.70	3,892.10		885.86	3,698.15	1,748.30 = 16,343.99
'99-'00 to Jan. '01	345.00	2,152.50	4,305.40		706.25		1,849.60 = 9,351.55
'00-'01	170.00	5,564.10	2,003.16		592.50		1,849.60 = 10,179.36
TOTALS	\$2,284.88	\$47,694.97	\$35,882.39	\$29,550.00	\$12,367.42	\$3,698.15	\$13,557.37 = 145,035.18

These figures do not include, janitorial wages, supplies for cleaning, lawn care, and snow removal.

WISHEK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #19  
ARMORY EXPENDITURES

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1710 Burnt Boat Drive  
PO Box 2235  
Bismarck, ND 58502-2235



Phone: (701) 223-3518  
Fax: (701) 223-5174  
Web: [www.ndlc.org](http://www.ndlc.org)

## *North Dakota League of Cities*

March 7, 2001

To: Members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee  
Regarding: House Bill No. 1215

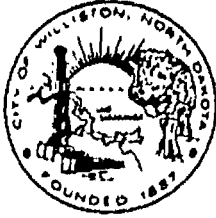
I am pleased, on behalf of our member cities that host an armory, to support HB 1215.

As you will note from the attached letters, these host cities have enjoyed a beneficial partnership with the North Dakota National Guard. City leaders both understand and appreciate the benefits of this partnership, but they've also face funding difficulties.

The attached testimony explains their plight and their desire to work with you on solutions to maintenance, repair and renovation challenges.

Thank you for your support of HB 1215.

Connie Sprynczynatyk  
Executive Director



POST OFFICE BOX 1306  
WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA 58802-1306  
PHONE (701) 572-8161  
FAX (701) 572-8880  
TDD (800) 366-6888  
(State Relay)

CITY OF *Williston* NORTH DAKOTA

March 6, 2001

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee  
State Capitol  
Bismarck ND 58505

RE: HB 1215

Dear Committee Members:

The City of Williston is very pleased to see HB 1215 which would allow a matching grant for maintenance and repair of political subdivision-owned armories. The City of Williston armory was built in the early 1960's. A building of this age requires considerable maintenance, and the City has not been able to budget for all of the necessary improvements. The rental received from the Office of Adjutant General has in fact decreased from \$12,000 annually in 1985 to \$9,256 which is projected for the next biennium and has remained constant for the last several years.

There are many renovations that we would like to make in the National Guard area of the building, and such a grant would mean the difference between a band-aid approach and an actual improvement to the area. The Williston City Commission asks that you recommend passage of HB 1215 to allow our cities to improve these facilities so important to the North Dakota National Guard and their training.

Sincerely,

E. Ward Koeser  
President  
Board of City Commissioners  
City of Williston

EWK:sk

**CITY OF VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA**  
**P. O. BOX 390**  
**VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA 58072**

March 7, 2001

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: House Bill 1215

The city of Valley City supports House Bill 1215; a bill providing an appropriation to the Adjutant General's Office for the maintenance and repairs of political subdivisions owned armories.

Please find attached on the page a five-year history of revenues and expenses for the city's National Guard Armory Building in Valley City. The expenses have exceeded the revenues in each of the past five years.

Additional information that I have provided is the annual utility bill for the armory building and a comparison of rent paid to the city by the National Guard. In reviewing these numbers, this leaves very little money to use for major improvements or repairs to the Armory building.

By providing up to \$25,000 in funds for major projects, the city would undertake several projects as funds are available.

Projects to be done are renovation of the kitchen area; replace tile floor, painting of hallways, assembly area, and offices and replacement of heating/air exchange units in the office areas.

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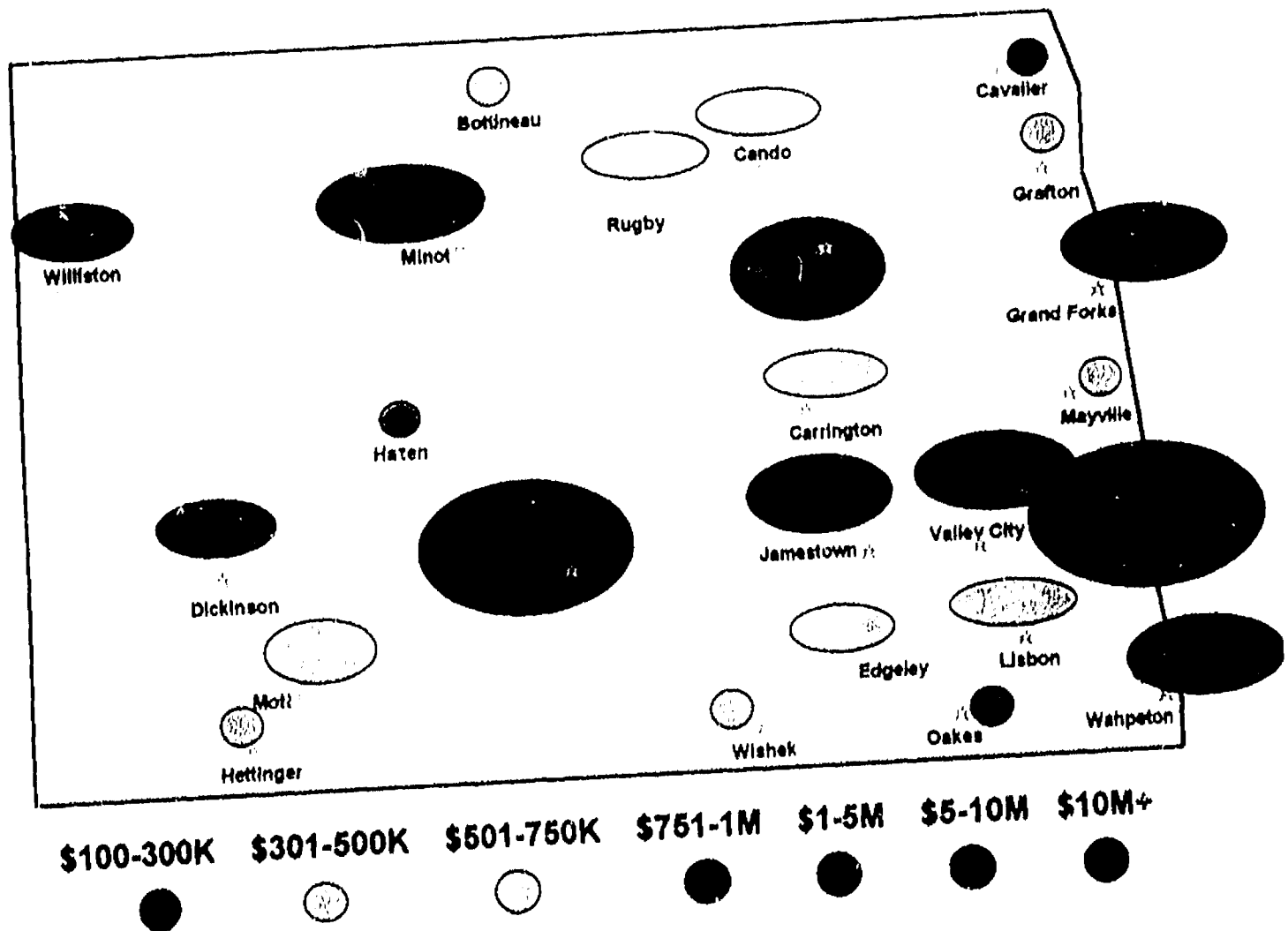
We would ask that your committee recommend a do pass for House Bill 1215

Riley Rogers, Mayor



# NORTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD

## Projected Economic Impact (Federal and State) 01-03



*Senator Hitchcock testimony*  
*HB 1215*

March 7, 2001

To Members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to address you regarding proposed HB 1215 which would establish a matching grant program for armory maintenance.

Major repair projects needed for the Grafton Armory in the next five years include replacing windows, floor tile and bathroom facilities. The outside of the building needs tuckpointing and the material on the barrel roof will need replacement. The National Guard offices are original to the building which was built in 1955.

The National Guard pays \$9,256 per year to lease a portion of the building. That with the City mill levy of \$15,000 and miscellaneous rentals, provides an operating budget of \$35,000.

There is nothing available for major repairs.

We urge your support of HB 1215 to provide communities with the responsibility of maintaining armories a funding source for major repairs needed by these building.

Thank you for your support.

Mayor Fred M. Stark  
Grafton, ND

**CITY OF MOTT**  
**202 E 3<sup>RD</sup> ST**  
**MOTT, ND 58646**  
**(701) 824-2163**

March 7, 2001

To: Members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee  
Regarding: House Bill No. 1215

The Mott armory is a center for various activities for the Mott community. It is home to the National Guard, as well as various school and community activities.

Funding for the upkeep comes from the Adjutant General, the school, and the city itself. Our problem is that the funds received don't cover the cost of the maintenance level that the armory needs and deserves.

Our armory is in dire need of becoming handicap accessible. The cost of the renovation is very expensive as doors, bathroom and shower area will have to be changed to comply.

The windows in the armory are in need of replacement, as the frames for them are deteriorating. They are the original windows when built.

We try with funds available to do the repairs as best we can, but we have only a part-time maintenance person to keep up with work in the building.

Please pass the House Bill No. 1215 to help our communities preserve our North Dakota city armories.

Sincerely;

Al John  
Mayor, City of Mott

Ervin Wolf  
Council Member & Pres. Armory Board