

MICROFILM DIVIDER

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SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1480

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Lo Costa Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/6/63
Date

2003 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

HB 1480

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Al Costa Richardson
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1480

House Human Services Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 3, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0.7 - 17.3
1	x		47.9 - 51.8
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sharon Rengrow</i>			

Rep. Severson appeared as prime sponsor in support of this bill stating this bill is basically taking us back to the way it was on just the one area on Quick Response Units and also submitted and proposed an amendment. This says that a Quick Response Unit now will go back to being voluntarily certified. In other words, it was mandated before that they had to provide 24-7 in order to hold themselves out as a Quick Response Unit, we want to go back now to the way it used to be where they can voluntarily certify. We do have Quick Response Units in the state that do that, but we don't want to eliminate those people who can still provide maybe 12 hours of service.

Rep. Gulleon appeared in support of the bill as a cosponsor stating the intent of the rules that were passed last session were very good, but what has happened is that it has put some of the rural Quick Response Units in a situation where the 24-7 provision is very difficult.

Rep. Drovda appeared in support as a cosponsor stating this covers the rural areas and handed out a letter from Dorothy Reil.

Page 2

House Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HB 1480

Hearing Date February 3, 2003

Joel Boesflug, Bismarck Fire Chief and also Director with the ND Fire Chief's Assoc. appeared in support with written testimony.

Rhonda Skramstad, Enderlin, ND appeared in support stating they are having trouble with the 24-7 and they do find it hard to cover during the day and feels its better to be there most of the time, than not at all.

Derek Hanson, Past President of the ND EMS Assoc. appeared in support with written testimony.

No opposition. Closed the hearing.

Rep. Porter moved the amendment by Rep. Severson, second by Rep. Kriedt. 13-0-0

Rep. Porter moved a DO PASS as Amended, second by Rep. Potter. 12-0-1, Rep. Pietsch to carry the bill.

30610.0101
Title.0200

Adopted by the House Human Services
Committee

February 3, 2003

VR
2/3/03

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1480 HUM SER 2-04-03

Page 1, line 8, remove "or of quick-response unit personnel"

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

30610.0101

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10/6/03
Date

Date: February 3, 2003
Roll Call Vote #:

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1480

House HUMAN SERVICES Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DO Pass as Amended

Motion Made By Rep Porter Seconded By Rep. Potter

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. Clara Sue Price - Chair	✓		Rep. Sally Sandvig	✓	
Rep. Bill Devlin, Vice-Chair	✓		Rep. Bill Amerman	✓	
Rep. Robin Weisz A	✓		Rep. Carol Niemeier	✓	
Rep. Vonnie Pietsch	✓		Rep. Louise Potter	✓	
Rep. Gerald Uglem	✓				
Rep. Chet Pollert	✓				
Rep. Todd Porter	✓				
Rep. Gary Kreidt	✓				
Rep. Alon Wieland	✓				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Pietsch

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

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10/16/03
Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 4, 2003 10:47 a.m.

Module No: HR-21-1594
Carrier: Pietsch
Insert LC: 30610.0101 Title: .0200

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1480: Human Services Committee (Rep. Price, Chairman) recommends
AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS**
(12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1480 was placed on the
Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 8, remove "or of quick-response unit personnel"

Renumber accordingly

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-21-1594

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Richard Costa
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

HB 1480

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Yolanda Richard
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1480

Senate Human Services Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 12, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	X		1052 - 1366
2		X	0 - 1205
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Donna Kremer, Clerk</i>			

Minutes:

SENATOR JUDY LEE opened the public hearing for HB 1480 relating to quick-response units.

REPRESENTATIVE SEVERSON introduced the bill. ... This bill allows the quick responder become voluntary ... to be certified voluntary - licensed. If they don't voluntary certify or license themselves, they are not eligible for grant dollars. ... Focus on what's best for the patient. ...

(Tape 2, Side A Meter # 1290 - 1362)

REPRESENTATIVE GULLESON, as a sponsor, testified. (Submitted written testimony from Ronda Skramstad, a member of the Enderlin/Sheldon EMS) The Enderlin/Sheldon Quick Response Unit had called Representative Gulleason when the rules were being written as a result of our legislation two years ago. ... quick responders are the first line of defense ... They contribute their own volunteer time for training and for the services and they want to be able to continue. ... Pretty good fix ... (Meter # 0 - 70)

SENATOR LEE: Explained the bill for the benefit of the students in the room.

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Salvatore Richford
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

Page 2

Senate Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HB 1480

Hearing Date March 12, 2003

REPRESENTATIVE DROVDAL, asked for favorable vote. ... (Meter # 82 - 240)

LARRY WEBER, Acting Director of the Division of EMS of from the Department of Health,
testified in favor of the bill. ... As for North Dakota, there are 144 licensed ambulance services
... 44 registered voluntary ... 8 still on certification list ... 50 regularly certified QRU ... (Meter #
241 - 340)

SENATOR POLOVITZ: Quick response units - all certified?

LARRY WEBER: Entities that are voluntary and certified with us at this time meet all the
requirements. (Meter # 347 - 432)

SENATOR LEE: Difference between license and certification?

LARRY WEBER: There really isn't. ... Ambulance services are licensed ... QRU -
certification. (Meter # 460 - 544)

DEREK HANSON, Past President & Legislative Chair of the North Dakota EMS Association,
testified in support of HB 1480. (Written testimony) (Meter # 620 - 680)

JOEL BOESFLUG, Fire Chief and also a director with the North Dakota Fire Chief's
Association, testified in favor. (Written testimony) (Meter # 690 - 895)

SENATOR POLOVITZ: Will there come a time when you will have to make some cuts ...
possibly then you would like this bill to go back to volunteers in a larger community?

JOEL BOESFLUG: ... The perception is far reaching ... providing community high protection ...
saving \$30 million a year in insurance premiums ... (Written testimony) (Meter # 900 - 1090)

REPRESENTATIVE SEVERSON: ... need portion in law ... (Meter # 1115 - 1166)

SENATOR LEE: We're going to make sure the fire departments are allowed to do what they
need to do.

Page 3

Senate Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HB 1480

Hearing Date March 12, 2003

SENATOR LEE closed the public hearing. (Meter #1205)

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La Costa Richard
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10/16/03
Date

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1480

Senate Human Services Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 12, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
3	X		1188 - 1287
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Donna Kramer, Clerk</i>			

Minutes:

SENATOR JUDY LEE reopened the committee discussion for HB 1480 regarding licensing or certification of quick-response units.

SENATOR ERBELE made a motion to DO PASS.

SENATOR FAIRFIELD seconded the motion.

Roll call was held. 6 yeas and 0 nays.

SENATOR ERBELE will be the carrier. (Meter # 1287)

Yolanda Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/6/03
Date

Date: 03-12-03
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1480

Senate Human Services Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken

Do Pass

Motion Made By

Sen. Erbele

Seconded By

Sen. Fairfield

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Judy Lee - Chairman	✓				
Senator Richard Brown - V. Chair.	✓				
Senator Robert S. Erbele	✓				
Senator Tom Fischer	✓				
Senator April Fairfield	✓				
Senator Michael Polovitz	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment

Sen. Erbele

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 13, 2003 11:56 a.m.

Module No: SR-45-4660
Carrier: Erbele
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1480, as engrossed: Human Services Committee (Sen. J. Lee, Chairman)
recommends DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
Engrossed HB 1480 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-45-4660

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10/16/03
Date

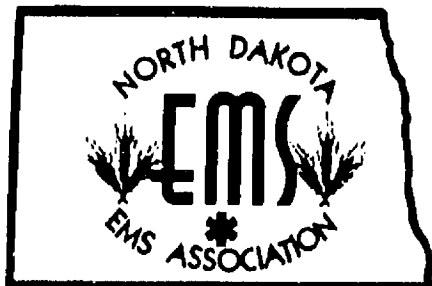
2003 TESTIMONY

HB 1480

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Ja Costa Rickard
Operator's Signature

10/6/03
Date



HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Testimony in Support of HB 1480

Monday, February 3, 2003
8:30 AM

Provided by: Derek Hanson, Past President
& Legislative Chair

The North Dakota EMS Association supports HB 1480 which would no longer mandate Quick Response Units (QRU's) to license or certify under NDCC 23-27. Certification as a QRU would be voluntary for all who wish to participate in the program.

Those who do not participate in the voluntary certification program would not be eligible for EMS training grants, and equipment grants.

Our association would like to offer a friendly amendment to read as follows; (Line 7 & 8 of the House Bill) "requirements under this chapter, department licensure or certification as a quick-response unit is optional". Line 8, delete the following; "or of quick-response unit personnel".

Many QRU's are already only meeting the minimum qualifications for levels of training as a 'First Responder', and it is not acceptable to allow volunteers who wish to provide medical assistance to not be certified to at least the 40 hour First Responder level.

We ask that you adopt the amendment changes and pass this bill in your committee.

Thank you.

Testimony on House Bill 1480

House Human Services Committee

By Joel Boespflug

February 3, 2003

Madam Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Joel Boespflug, Bismarck Fire Chief and also a Director with the North Dakota Fire Chief's Association. I appear before you today in favor of House Bill 1480.

The bill is short in length, but it is very important to the operations of the fire service. The primary responsibility of the fire department in emergency response is fire suppression, hazardous materials response, and specialized rescue. Our fire stations are strategically located within the city to provide our firefighters the opportunity to be on-scene and engaged in firefighting and emergency response activities within four to five minutes of the initial call. Rapid deployment of our forces is critical to the outcome of the fire emergency. Because of the strategic locations of fire stations, we are also able to have a positive impact on the outcome of medical emergencies in our community. Our firefighters are certified emergency medical technicians and in many cases they arrive at the scene prior to the ambulance because of the fire station locations. In response to medical emergencies, our fire apparatus operate within their fire protection district to maintain their readiness for response to our primary mission.

We take great pride in having the opportunity to provide rapid response for our citizens in 1,000 medical emergencies every year and in our working relationship with the local ambulance service.

In North Dakota Century Code, section 57-40.6 states that quick response units are subject to being dispatched to a medical emergency regardless of their jurisdictional boundaries. If mandated to be a quick response unit, it would not be possible for our fire department to respond out of our jurisdiction. The specific reason is the responsibility we have to our primary mission of maintaining continuous fire protection in our city. The optional provision as described within House Bill 1480 will allow us, and the other larger fire departments in the state, to continue responding to emergency medical incidents within our fire protection jurisdictions.

Madam Chairnan and members of the committee, thank you for your consideration. I urge you to pass House Bill 1480 and I will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

HB 1480



"Dorothy Reil"
<drell@ruggedwest.co
m>

To: <ddrovdal@state.nd.us>
cc:
Subject: dorothy alex gru

02/02/2003 08:49 AM

My name is Dorothy Reil and I am representing the Alexander City and Rural First Responders located in Alexander, ND. We are located 25 miles south of Williston and 20 miles west of Watford City.

Our group formed in the winter of 1985 when we had several people complete the first responder course. That summer we were encouraged to buy a Heart Aid Machine by our instructor Derek Hanson whom I would guess most of you know.

The problem at that time was in order to operate the Heart Aid machine in North Dakota, we had to be EMT's. So late that fall we began an EMT class and five of us became certified in March of 1986. One person in our group was an EMT before we started any classes and was instrumental in beginning our group.

Since then we have lost and gained persons but mostly we have been standing at a steady nine EMT's since. Our people are also educated with most holding a four year college degree and one holding a Master's degree.

Our rig is equipped with much more than the required state list. Our people are certified. And our First Responder group has been certified for the past seventeen years.

In the past year, financial circumstances have caused two of our people living in the city of Alexander to take jobs out of town, namely in Williston. And that leaves the ones who can respond living from two to fourteen miles out of town.

This spring after doing a lot of soul searching, we agreed that we could not in all good conscience sign off on a twenty-four/seven requirement. We have been told numerous times by representatives of the EMS association, that not responding to a call is cause to have our entire life's work of

Lolista Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

alleged threat and we don't want to lose any more.

At this time we have two new people enrolled in an EMT class in Williston. Hopefully, next spring we can once again feel good about signing on to the 24/7.

We serve a huge area. We cover about ten miles east of Alexander, ten miles north, from ten to 20 miles west and at least 30 miles south. Forty miles by twenty miles gives us 800 square miles. Sometimes this may extend to 1200 square miles.

We call our nearest ambulance if one has not been dispatched. We were doing this long before you folks in the populated areas made a big deal out of it this last year.

We can call on Sidney or Fairview, Montana. We call Watford City or Williston, ND.

Fairview, MT is down to basically three people to answer call, so when they can't they have to call Sidney to respond. That is why our area can increase so dramatically. One of our EMT's carries a pager from the Fairview group as he farms and ranches near that area and if something happens on our side of the border he can respond.

We serve in a major oil activity area. Always potential for disaster there. In fact, just recently an oil drilling rig erupted into flames. Highway 85 runs through our midst. This past summer, we had several vehicle accidents on that highway. We also serve Highway 200 and Highway 68 and Highway 16.

We are a farming and ranching area, and there is always potential for accidents. Our city of Alexander is comprised of an older population and require medical attention.

Our city of Alexander, our surrounding townships, and our county commissioners have been extremely supportive over the past 18 years. We started out with nothing, and now we have our first response vehicle, we have our own garage.....converted from a Laundromat, we are in the process of buying our radio tower from the gentleman who has so kindly let us run off it for the past years.

RESPONDING is what we do, and RESPONDING is what we wish to continue to do. We have had enough trouble being paged out in the past. Those problems seem to have been resolved when the Watford City dispatching changed from any hospital personnel answering a phone to a regular dispatch at the sheriff's office. We have never had a problem being dispatched from Williston.

So you must be able to find a solution to a problem you devised by stating that no one can call a "non-certified" unit to respond. We have the certification in all ways, we just can't assure ourselves that if a call comes in during the day that someone will be there immediately. Someone will get there, but not as quickly due to the miles to be traveled.

I truly wished to be here today to tell you these things in person. I do have a part time job and the past several months have me busy trying to clean up a financial mess my late husband left. Had this hearing been scheduled for afternoon, it would not have been a major problem for me to drive the 200 plus miles to Bismarck. I can't afford to stay overnight. Thus I am asking that someone read this to the group.

Most sincerely submitted,

Dorothy Reil

PO Box 22

Alexander ND 58831-0022

Phone: 701-828-3157 at home or

701-572-9414 at the office where you can leave a message.

dreil@ruggedwest.com or fostergrandma@frontiernet.net

Testimony on House Bill 1480

Senate Human Services Committee

By Joel Boespflug

March 12, 2003

Madam Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Joel Boespflug, Bismarck Fire Chief and also a Director with the North Dakota Fire Chief's Association. I appear before you today in favor of Engrossed House Bill 1480.

The bill is short in length, but it is very important to the operations of the fire service.

The primary responsibility of the fire department in emergency response is fire suppression, hazardous materials response, and specialized rescue. Our fire stations are strategically located within the city to provide our firefighters the opportunity to be on-scene and engaged in firefighting and emergency response activities within four to five minutes of the initial call. Rapid deployment of our forces is critical to the outcome of the fire emergency. Because of the strategic locations of fire stations, we are also able to have a positive impact on the outcome of medical emergencies in our community. Our firefighters are certified emergency medical technicians and in many cases they arrive at the scene prior to the ambulance because of the fire station locations. In response to medical emergencies, our fire apparatus operate within their fire protection district to maintain their readiness for response to our primary mission.

We take great pride in having the opportunity to provide rapid response for our citizens in 1,000 medical emergencies every year and in our working relationship with the local ambulance service.

In North Dakota Century Code, section 57-40.6 states that quick response units are subject to being dispatched to a medical emergency regardless of their jurisdictional boundaries. If mandated to be a quick response unit, it would not be possible for our fire department to respond out of our jurisdiction. The specific reason is the responsibility we have to our primary mission of maintaining continuous fire protection in our city. The optional provision as described within the bill will allow us, and the other larger fire departments in the state, to continue responding to emergency medical incidents within our fire protection jurisdictions.

Madam Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for your consideration. I urge you to pass Engrossed House Bill 1480 and I will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.



SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Testimony in Support of HB 1480

Wednesday, March 12, 2003
10:30 AM

Provided by: Derek Hanson, Past President
& Legislative Chair

The North Dakota EMS Association supports HB 1480 which would no longer mandate Quick Response Units (QRU's) to license or certify under NDCC 23-27. Certification as a QRU would be voluntary for all who wish to participate in the program.

Response from a certified QRU only requires one person at a minimum to respond to the emergency. The preference of the EMS Association would be to have all ND QRU's certified, however, we do agree that having some emergency services for some of the time is still better than not having any service at all. Those who do not participate in the voluntary certification program would not be eligible for the EMS training grants, and equipment grants.

Many QRU's are already only meeting the minimum qualifications for levels of training as a "First Responder", and it is not acceptable to allow volunteers who wish to provide medical assistance to not be certified to at least the 40 hour First Responder level.

We ask for your support on this bill, and hope that you will recommend a "do pass" on HB 1480.

Thank you.

Madam Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Ronda Skramstad, I am a member of the Enderlin/Sheldon EMS. I would really like to be there in person today, but because I work in a nursing home and we have our state survey team this week and also there is a funeral for one of our residents today, I find it hard to be gone from work at this time.

Our EMS group is a small group of 6 volunteers, we are from a small rural community. Three of us work out of town during the day and one is at ADM, the sunflower plant, he is allowed to leave most of the time, unless there is a breakdown. Because of the small number and most of us working out of town, we find the 24/7 very hard to promise. There are a few hours during the day that just can't be covered for sure. We do however feel it is better to be here for our community most of the time than not at all. We do have a commitment to our community to be there for them and we try our best to do that. The ambulance from Lisbon considers us their first line of defense, and I think that Casselton feels the same way. We serve a very large area, we can be paged from State Radio for Ransom County, Cass County dispatch system, and also Barnes County.

Checking with other QRU's in the state, most of them are in the same position we are, not being able to promise 24/7. There seems to be a lack of people willing to put the time into volunteering for things these days and groups like us suffer for this. We, however, would just like to be there for our community and do the job we have trained for.

We ask for a do pass on House Bill 1480.

Thank you.

Enderlin/Sheldon EMS

Ronda Skramstad, Carol Gangl, Sharon Lund, Roland Schroeder, Don Teegarden and Sandra Teegarden.