

SENATE BILL 2143

TESTIMONY BY: BRENDA DOLL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANIES BEFORE THE ND SENATE INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN LARSEN, VICE CHAIRMAN KESSEL AND MEMBERS OF THE INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

MY NAME IS BRENDA DOLL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANIES. I ALSO HAVE 38 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE BUSINESS. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU TODAY, AND TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR SB 2143.

THE CHANGES ARE TO AMEND SEC 26. 1-03-10 OF THE NORTH DAKOTA CENTURY CODE. THIS CODE ACTUALLY DATES BACK TO 1885, WAS AMENDED 11 TIMES BETWEEN 1885 AND 1943, ALONG WITH A VERY MINOR WORD CHANGE IN 1983. IN 1983 NDCC 26.07-08 WAS REPEALED AND REPLACED WITH NDCC 26.1-03-10.

THE ONLY STIPULATION FOR PUBLICATION OF COUNTY MUTUAL ABSTRACTS IS THAT IT MUST BE PUBLISHED AT LEAST ONCE IN A NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE COMPANY HAS ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS, A NEWSPAPER DESIGNATED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY. THE ISSUE IS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT DAY IT WILL BE PUBLISHED, SO CONSUMERS COULD MISS IT. FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF SOUTHWEST MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW SALEM, BUT YOUR RESIDENCE IS IN BISMARCK, YOU WOULD MOST LIKELY LOOK FOR THE ABSTRACT IN THE BISMARCK TRIBUNE BUT THE ABSTRACT IS PUBLISHED IN THE NEW SALEM JOURNAL. WITH THE ABSTRACTS ALL AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE ON THE NORTH DAKOTA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE, THIS WOULD NOT BE AN ISSUE.

COUNTY MUTUAL INSURERS PAY ANNUALLY FOR ABSTRACT PUBLICATION, AND THE ANNUAL COST ASSOCIATED WITH ABSTRACT PUBLICATION IS PASSED ON TO THE COMPANY POLICYHOLDERS. WITH THE ABSTRACTS AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO ANYONE ON THE NORTH DAKOTA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE, NDCC 26.1-03-10 NEEDS TO BE UPDATED.

I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR A DO PASS ON SB 2143.

THANK YOU