



Testimony in Support HB 1162
Presented to the Senate State and Local Government Committee
Prepared by Bernie Dardis, Mayor, City of West Fargo
Thursday, April 3, 2025

1 Chairman Roers and members of the Senate State and Local Government
2 Committee:

3 Thank you for accepting my written testimony in support of House Bill 1162
4 amending the selection of the Board of Directors for the Lake Agassiz Water
5 Authority (LAWA) to include West Fargo.

6 LAWA represents local water users who utilize the Red River Valley Water
7 Supply Project (RRVWSP) which is critical to the preservation and future of the
8 water supply in the Red River Valley. Upon project completion, West Fargo will
9 be the third largest user of water from the RRVWSP behind Grand Forks and
10 Fargo.

11 Based on current North Dakota Century Code, I represent West Fargo as a
12 non-voting, Associate Board Member of LAWA. This bill will allow West Fargo to
13 have a voting interest on the Board of Directors to represent our community's
14 interest in RRVWSP and the future of West Fargo's clean and safe drinking water.

15 I am grateful to LAWA and to the Legislators Representing the West Fargo
16 community for initiating this bill for understanding the importance of equitable
17 representation on the LAWA board. I strongly urge a do pass and thank you for
18 your consideration.

19 Sincerely,

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21 Bernie Dardis, Mayor
22 City of West Fargo
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