

2025 SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SB 2245

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Peace Garden Room, State Capitol

SB 2245

2/6/2025

Relating to the use of blinds, boats, and decoys in taking ducks and geese.

9:01 a.m. Chairman Patten opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Patten Senators: Beard, Enget, Boehm, Gerhardt, and Van Oosting. Vice Chairman Kessel absent.

Discussion Topics:

- Waterfowl hunting opportunities
- Floating watercrafts
- Natural wind
-

9:02 a.m. Senator Dwyer, introduced the bill.

9:05 a.m. Bill Haase, Assistant Wildlife Division Chief of Game and Fish Department, testified in favor.

9:11 a.m. Rich Grosz, Retired Federal Agent U.S. Fish and Wildlife, testified in favor.

Additional written testimony:

Nick Surma, Resident, Lincoln, submitted testimony in favor #34654.

9:14 a.m. Chairman Patten closed the hearing.

Kendra McCann, Committee Clerk

SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Testimony in favor of SB 2245

Chairman Patten and members of the Committee:

My name is Nick Surma, and I am a resident of Lincoln, North Dakota. I submit this testimony in support of SB 2245. I have been an avid waterfowl hunter since my dad introduced me to the sport when I was 10 years old. I support SB 2245 because it will provide increased waterfowl hunting opportunities. Having the ability to hunt from a boat with a motor would increase the ability to hunt diving ducks on lakes and other large bodies of water. At the same time, by requiring that the motor be turned off and the watercraft at rest, the bill ensures that the watercraft cannot be used to abuse resting waterfowl. Overall, SB 2245 increases hunting opportunities while having little to no impact on waterfowl.

Thank you for considering my testimony and your efforts on SB 2245.

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Energy and Natural Resources Committee

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2/6/2025

Relating to the use of blinds, boats, and decoys in taking ducks and geese.

9:30 a.m. Chairman Patten opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Patten, Senators: Beard, Boehm, Enget, Gerhardt, and Van Oosting. Vice Chairman Kessel absent.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee Action

9:30 a.m. Senator Boehm moved a Do Pass.

9:30 a.m. Senator Gerhardt seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Dale Patten	Y
Senator Greg Kessel	A
Senator Todd Beard	Y
Senator Keith Boehm	Y
Senator Mark Enget	Y
Senator Justin Gerhardt	Y
Senator Desiree Van Oosting	Y

Motion Passed 6-0-1.

9:30 a.m. Senator Boehm will carry the bill.

9:30 a.m. Chairman Patten closed the hearing.

Kendra McCann, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2245 ([25.1167.01000](#))

Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Patten, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2245 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

2025 HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SB 2245

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

SB 2245

3/7/2025

Relating to the use of blinds, boats, and decoys in taking ducks and geese.

9:05 a.m. Chairman Porter called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Porter, Vice Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Novak,
Representatives: Dockter, Hagert, Headland, Heinert, Johnson, Marschall, Olson, Ruby,
Conmy, Foss

Discussion Topics:

- Water fowl boat hunting
- Ducks in 'roost'
- Motor size
- Boat types

9:05 a.m. Senator Dwyer introduced the bill.

9:11 a.m. Rich Gross, ND Resident, testified in favor.

9:20 a.m. Scott Winkleman, Enforcement Chief ND Game and Fish, answered questions for the committee.

9:27 a.m. Chairman Porter closed the hearing.

Leah Kuball, Committee Clerk

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

SB 2245

4/3/2025

Relating to the use of blinds, boats, and decoys in taking ducks and geese.

9:14 a.m. Chairman Porter called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Porter, Vice Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Novak,
Representatives: Dockter, Hagert, Headland, Heinert, Johnson, Marschall, Olson, Ruby,
Conmy, Foss

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

9:16 a.m. Representative J. Olson moved a Do Pass.

9:16 a.m. Representative M. Ruby seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Todd Porter	Y
Representative Dick Anderson	Y
Representative Anna Novak	Y
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative Jason Dockter	Y
Representative Austin Foss	Y
Representative Jared c. Hagert	Y
Representative Craig Headland	Y
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Jorin Johnson	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	Y
Representative Jeremy L. Olson	Y
Representative Matthew Ruby	Y

Motion carried: 13-0-0

Bill carrier: Representative Marschall

9:18 a.m. Chairman Porter closed the hearing.

Leah Kuball, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2245 ([25.1167.01000](#))

Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Porter, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2245 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.