

TESTIMONY OF

Sergeant Evan Savageau

Good morning Chairman Clemens and members of the committee. My name is Evan Savageau and I serve as the planning officer for the North Dakota Highway Patrol. I am here to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1118.

This bill amends NDCC 39-04-11, 39-04-12, 39-04-36, 39-04-37, and 39-04-56 pertaining to motor vehicle registration.

One of our regional sergeants in the Bismarck office has been part of a working committee with the NDDOT. Some of the work being completed by this group addresses ongoing concerns with motor vehicle fraud, more specifically fraudulent use of temporary registration permits. The committee has also redesigned the look of the temporary registration permit to make it more clearly visible.

Section 1 of the bill identifies where the temporary registration permit needs to be displayed. The language identifies that the permit must be displayed on the rear window, the rearmost driver's side window, or in the location of the rear license plate. When law enforcement comes across vehicles with temporary registrations, they are quite often displayed in multiple locations. Currently, NDCC does not identify where the temporary permit must be displayed. This makes it very difficult at times for law enforcement to observe.

Section 2 of the bill addresses NDCC 39-04-12. While providing testimony to the House Transportation Committee, Major Iverson suggested that section be removed as it is not realistic to require the temporary registration to be legible up to 100 feet during the night.

Section 3 of the bill addresses NDCC 39-04-36. While providing testimony to the House Transportation Committee, there was support to increase the number of days a temporary registration certificate was valid. After discussion, it was agreed upon to increase the number of days from 30 to 75 days.

Additionally, I am suggesting an amendment to Section 3 of this bill. The amendment simply strikes out, "The certificate must be printed on the reverse side of each vehicle registration card and must be available to the transferee from licensed vehicle dealers, law enforcement agencies, and motor vehicle branch offices." This is on lines 30-31 on Page 3 and lines 1-2 on Page 4. This amendment removes the antiquated process of using the reverse side of a vehicle registration card as a temporary registration permit. NDDOT provides these permits online free of charge. They can also be obtained free of charge from any NDDOT kiosk location. This amendment was brought forth to

the House Transportation Committee, but was inadvertently missed when the bill was amended.

Section 4 of the bill addresses the unlawful use of temporary registration permits. This section of law currently addresses such things as license plates, tabs, and registration cards. This bill adds temporary registration permits to the list. Subsection 1 states that the temporary registration must be displayed, and that the registration shall not be canceled or revoked. Subsection 2 states that the temporary registration shall not be fictitious or have been canceled, revoked, suspended, or altered. Subsection 3 states that the temporary registration shall not be used by any person not entitled thereto. Subsection 4 states that the temporary registration must be surrendered to the department upon demand.

Section 5 of the bill addresses the fraudulent use of temporary registration permits by making it clear that they are not to be altered, forged, or falsified.

This concludes my testimony. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.