

TESTIMONY OF

Major Tom Iverson

Good morning Chairman Ruby and members of the committee. My name is Tom Iverson and I serve as the chief of operations 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, 39-04-36, 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 lower left of the rear window. 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.

I have included a suggested amendment to Line 15 of Section 1 of the bill. It has been brought to my attention that the language of "authorized car dealership" should be changed to "licensed motor vehicle dealer" in an effort to stay consistent with other areas of NDCC.

Section 2 of the bill addresses NDCC 39-04-12. After further consideration, I am suggesting that section be removed and replaced with an amendment to NDCC 39-04-36. The amendment to NDCC 39-04-36 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.

Section 3 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 4 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.