

Testimony
House Bill 1087
Senate Human Services Committee
Monday, February 18, 2013
North Dakota Department of Health

Good morning, Chairman Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee. My name is Brenda Weisz, Director of the Division of Accounting for the North Dakota Department of Health. I am here to provide testimony in support of HB 1087.

Section 19-01-05 of the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) directs the Department of Health to appoint county sheriffs as local inspectors to conduct inspections as assigned by the department. The sheriffs are to collect fees and charges related to the inspections and forward them to the department to be deposited in the general fund as directed in Section 19-01-07 of the NDCC.

Section 19-01-18 of the NDCC refers to requests by the Public Service Commission (PSC) of the Department of Health to perform duties regarding inspection and licensing of weights and measures, to collect fees and deposit them in the general fund.

Both of these processes are outdated and no longer used. Additionally, an informal recommendation was included in our most recent audit report to collect the fees or repeal the section if it no longer pertained to the department. Based on our research, both sections can be repealed entirely.

Section 19-01-07 of the NDCC needs to be modified to eliminate the reference to the general fund since both sections noted above are no longer relevant. However, the second half of section 19-01-07, starting with "Funds may be accepted..." is still relevant and the amendment only adds clarification that funds may be accepted by the department.

This concludes my testimony and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding these proposed changes.