

Testimony
House Bill 1386
House Human Resources Committee
February 2, 2015 10:30 a.m.
North Dakota Department of Health

Good morning Chairman Weisz and members of the committee. My name is Terry O'Clair and I am the Director of the Air Quality Division with the State Health Department. I am here to provide information regarding House Bill 1386.

House Bill 1386 calls upon the State Health Council to adopt rules that regulate the levels of carbon monoxide in indoor ice arenas in the state. If House Bill 1386 passes, the Air Quality Division would more than likely be the Division within the Department to draft such rules and establish an inspection program.

A quick Goggle search indicates there are approximately 70 ice arena facilities across the state. The Department has made preliminary efforts to contact the City of Bismarck Building Inspections Department to determine if their program currently performs any inspections regarding carbon monoxide in such facilities. As of this morning, we have not received a response and we are planning to have follow-up conversations with Bismarck and other cities throughout the state regarding ice arena air quality inspections. Without knowing what type of inspections cities are currently conducting, it is difficult to assess what the Department of Health would have to do to comply with this bill.

My initial thoughts are that the Bill 1386 may need a fiscal note to account for the purchase of carbon monoxide monitoring equipment, travel expenses and one FTE to prepare and promulgate the rules and perform inspections of the 70 sources.

Thank you for your attention. I would be happy respond to any questions.