



Legislation Summary for the week of Feb. 21-25, 2005

Week seven has been busy, week six we didn't have any committee hearing, so we had a short break. Tuesday mornings during this legislative session, we will meet at the Game & Fish office at 10:00 AM and go over the bills that have been or will be introduced and will be heard during this week's session.

HB 1137 – Would amend the North Dakota Century Code by requiring compliance with bait vendor administrative rules prior to issuance of a wholesale or retail bait vendor license. The Senate Natural Resource Committee heard this bill on Thurs, Feb 24, 05 in the Fort Totten Room. **The committee voted a Do-Pass, yea 7 - nay 0. On Feb 25, 05 - the full Senate voted - Do-Pass - yeas 45 nays 0**

HB 1196 – (Reps. Nelson, Delmore, Weisz; Sens. Christmann, Heitkamp) - Relating to all-terrain vehicles registered as motorcycles; relating to the operation of all-terrain vehicles; and to provide a penalty. Senate Transportation heard this bill on Thurs, Feb 24, 05 in the Lewis and Clark Room. **I didn't testify on this bill, but I feel that if you have an ATV that you should contact your Senator and ask them to support this bill. The committee has not taken a vote on this bill. The Senators that I have talked with have not been contacted to vote one way or the other on this bill. The bill will not have everything in it that was wanted, but at least it is a good starting point and can be amended in the future sessions. Please Contact and encourage the passage of HB 1196.**

SB 2141 – Would amend the North Dakota Century Code by revising the boating under influence law. House Transportation Committee heard this bill on Friday, Feb 25, 05 at 9:00 AM in the Fort Totten Room. **The result of my inquiry is that we will be supporting this bill. I testified in support of the bill in behalf of the NDSFC and this bill has not come out of committee yet. The House committee members asked a lot of questions on this bill, so it would wish to call you representatives and ask them to support SB 2141. There has never been a BWI issued to a fisherman, so the fishermen are not the problem.**

SB 2294 – Increases bait vendor fees and requires equipment tags. Relating to license fees for nonresident wholesale bait vendor licenses; relating to the regulation and licensing of wholesale bait vendors. House Natural Resources Committee heard this bill on Feb 25, 05 in the Pioneer Room at 10:00 AM. **I testified on behalf of the NDSFC. The House didn't vote on the bill as they wanted to add an amendment. I don't see any reason for them not passing this bill.**

The bills that I will be following or testifying at this coming week of Feb 28 thru Mar 4, 05 will be:

SB 2041 –Relating to hunting on Indian land, and relating to transportation of game and fish taken on Indian lands. HNRC to hear on Mar 4, 05 at 9:00 AM in the Pioneer Room. **With amends that have been added to this bills there is implications that the public boat ramps, cabin sites, public accesses, and business owners on the reservation could be affected. Please call your Representatives and urge a Do-NOT PASS on this bill as it might have far reaching implications. Get as many people as possible to get in contact with their Representatives to vote DO-NOT PASS on this issue.**

SB 2338 – (Sens. Traynor, Tollefson, Wardner; Reps. Nelson, Porter) - Would establish a management plan for prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species. HNRC to hear Mar 3, 05, 9:00 AM in the Pioneer Room. **I will be testifying in support of the bill on behalf of the FOLS and NDSFC. I would ask each of you to contact your representatives and ask them to pass this bill. Passage of this bill will help protect our waters from unwanted aquatic species not only for ourselves, but for future generations of fishermen and recreationist of our great state.**

SB 2369 – (Sens. Heitkamp, Lyson, Tollefson; Reps. Amerman, Nelson, Wall) - Would amend the North Dakota Century Code by creating a nonresident 10-day fishing license for \$25. HNRC to hear Mar 3, 05, 10:00 AM in the Pioneer Room. **I testified in support of the bill, providing that we only have three classes of non-resident fishing licenses, if the 10-day non-resident license is adapted, then the seven day non-resident should be done away with. The Senate amended the bill and deleted the seven day license, so after the amendment the bill reads to have a three day, ten day and year non-resident license available.**

SCR 4026 – (Sens. Warner, Freborg, Lyson; Reps. Charging, Onstad) A concurrent resolution urging Congress to enact legislation to address the adverse economic impact on businesses and the economic health of North Dakota caused by the low water levels of the federally managed reservoirs on the Missouri River in North Dakota. **01/27** Senate Introduced, first reading, referred Natural Resources. SNRC to hear 2/10, 9:15 a.m. in the Fort Lincoln Room. **Passed, Yeas 7, Nays 0. Passed to the House on 2/15/05.**

HCR 3019 – (Reps. Froelich, Brandenburg, Kerzman, Kretschmar; Sens. Erbele, Krauter)- A concurrent resolution urging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to retain sufficient water in the upper portion of Lake Oahe to ensure a stable water supply for the residents of water in the upper portion of Lake Oahe to ensure a stable water supply for the residents of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and surrounding communities and urging the Governor and the Attorney General to take appropriate action to ensure federal officials retain sufficient water in the upper portion of Lake Oahe to protect the health and well-being of the citizens of the area. HNR to hear 2/11, 9:00 in the Pioneer Room. **2/14/05, House passed Yeas 14, Nays 0. SNC received on 2/24/05 - no hearing date set.**

HCR 3026 – (Reps. Onstad, Delzer, Drovdal; Sens. Heitkamp, Lyson) - A concurrent resolution urging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to maintain the level of Lake Sakakawea at a minimum elevation of 1,825 feet mean sea level. HNR to hear 2/11, 9:30 in the Pioneer Room. **2/11/05, House- Passed- Yeas 14, Nays 0. SNR received on 2/23/05 - no hearing date set.**

HCR 3027 – (Reps. S. Meyer, Haas, Kerzman, Onstad; Sens. Krauter, Wardner) A concurrent resolution urging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to retain sufficient water in the upper portion of Lake Sakakawea to ensure a stable water supply for the Southwest Pipeline Project and the 26 communities and 3,000 farms and ranches that receive water from the Southwest Pipeline Project and urging the Governor and the Attorney General to take appropriate action to ensure federal officials retain sufficient water in Lake Sakakawea to protect the health and well-being of the citizens of southwest North Dakota. HNR to hear 2/11, 10:00 a.m. in the Pioneer Room. **2/14/05 - House - Passed - Yeas 14, Nays 0. SNR received on 2/23/05 - no hearing date set.**

Contact your local legislators and urge them to support the above bills and concurrent resolutions. Feel free to sit in on the hearings.

➤ If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at 701.351.0260 or by email at duaine_ash@yahoo.com during this legislative session.

Report submitted by: Duaine Ash