

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
03/11/2015

Amendment to: SB 2143

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2013-2015 Biennium		2015-2017 Biennium		2017-2019 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2013-2015 Biennium	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

Engrossed SB 2143 with House Amendments eliminates the requirement that counties levy for senior citizens services and programs.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

Engrossed SB 2143 with House Amendments enables counties that have appropriated revenues to senior citizens services and programs - with or without a corresponding mill levy - to participate in the matching funds provided in this section. There is no fiscal impact to this change.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Name: Kathryn L. Strombeck

Agency: Office of Tax Commissioner

Telephone: 328-3402

Date Prepared: 03/12/2015

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
03/11/2015

Amendment to: SB 2143

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Revenues						
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

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Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

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Name: Kathryn L. Strombeck

Agency: Office of Tax Commissioner

Telephone: 328-3402

Date Prepared: 03/12/2015

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
01/08/2015

Amendment to: SB 2143

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2013-2015 Biennium		2015-2017 Biennium		2017-2019 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues			\$(1,218,000)	\$1,218,000		
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2013-2015 Biennium	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

SB 2143 increases the amount of revenue available to counties for a matching grant from the senior citizen services and programs fund.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

If enacted, SB 2143 is expected to reduce state general fund revenues by an estimated \$1.218 million in the 2015-17 biennium, and increase revenues in the senior citizen services and programs fund the the same amount. This additional revenue will be distributed to qualifying counties as a match to the amount they levy for qualifying senior programs, up to 100% of one mill.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

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- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Name: Kathryn L. Strombeck

Agency: Office of Tax Commissioner

Telephone: 328-3402

Date Prepared: 01/16/2015

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
01/08/2015

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2143

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2013-2015 Biennium		2015-2017 Biennium		2017-2019 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues			\$(1,218,000)	\$1,218,000		
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2013-2015 Biennium	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
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Name: Kathryn L. Strombeck

Agency: Office of Tax Commissioner

Telephone: 328-3402

Date Prepared: 01/16/2015

2015 SENATE FINANCE AND TAXATION

SB 2143

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
1/19/2015
Job Number 22144

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to matching grants to counties for senior citizen services and programs; and to provide an effective date.

Minutes:

Attachment #1, 2, 3, 4

Chairman Cook opened the hearing on SB2143

Dave Oehlke, District Senator, District #15, introducing SB2143.

Our human services departments do really cool stuff. One thing is they provide meal-on-wheels. (**Attachment #1**).

Chairman Cook -- Do you remember when they took it to .85? Last session?

Senator Oehlke -- Yes. I don't remember them saying they would never be back.

Chairman Cook -- If we finally get to 100%, is it safe to assume they'll never be back, or will it be 110%?

Senator Oehlke -- You never know. I'll tell you in a couple of years.

Brian Arett, Executive Director Valley Senior Services, which is an agency based out of Fargo, and a representative of 19 agencies that are members of the North Dakota Senior Service Providers. I am here to testify in support of SB2143. (**Attachment #2**)

Chairman Cook -- Will you talk a bit more about the contracts you have with small restaurants. Do they cook the meal?

Brian Arett -- We contract directly with 4 restaurants, who prepare the meals and then they either serve meals to seniors that come into the restaurant and we reimburse them for an agreed upon rate, or they bring the meals to the senior center and we serve them there.

Chairman Cook -- What do you sell the meals for?

Brian Arett -- We do not sell the meals. We make the meals available to the seniors at a suggested contribution rate of \$3.50. We went up to \$6.50 with the restaurants. We reimburse them for the meals that they prepare.

Donnell Presky, North Dakota Association of Counties (**Attachment #3**)

Chairman Cook -- This amendment couldn't be placed on the governor's bill, could it?

Donnell Presky -- When that was brought up as a suggestion during the meeting, the Governor said he would rather not have it in his reform bill and he would rather have the counties work on another way to get this addressed.

Senator Bekkedahl -- I fully agree with this. I think it is good language and good stewardship. Are there counties out there that have the means to fund this with appropriation, or without a levy appropriated?

Donnell Presky -- This comes from our Auditor's directly. This was voiced as one of their big concerns during the Auditor's Convention this summer. They actually have to levy "x" amount of dollars in order to get those funds from the state. Their concern was that they are levying for dollars and spending dollars that they don't really need just to get that match.

Senator Triplett -- Then why don't they just reduce their general fund mill levy accordingly?

Donnell Presky -- In a lot of cases that would very much reduce the amount of dollars that would be available to those senior citizen centers.

Senator Triplett -- You're saying that because they are perceiving it as being attached, specifically to the levy amount? Okay. Then they would be ineligible for the match.

Kevin Glatt, Burleigh County Auditor/Treasurer (**Attachment #4**)

Senator Dotzenrod -- The county would have open to it an option: that they could levy a mill and use that money to get this match, or they could just appropriate and not have a mill levy at all?

Kevin Glatt -- That's correct.

Josh Askvig, AARP North Dakota

We support this effort and encourage you to pass it. We regularly survey our members about what their number 1 concern is, and the one thing that always comes up: how do I safely stay in my home for as long as possible. From research, we know that the meal-on-wheels program and those things that are supported by this match, are a key critical component of that.

Senator Triplett -- Does your group have any data to verify that these kinds of programs do keep people out of nursing homes, or is it just anecdotal?

Josh Askvig -- Let me do some digging to see if I can come up with some hard data in terms of person for person. AARP has worked with a number of organizations to put together what we call a long-term care scoreboard. (meter 19:30).

Senator Triplett -- Just the scoreboard would be appreciated. If you could mail a copy of it to the committee.

John Askvig -- Happy to do that. Also, will see if our folks have anything on the other data.

Senator Dotzenrod -- Do we know, of the 53 counties, how many counties do this?

Josh Askvig -- The Counties Association should have that number. The cheap seats said 51.

Chairman Cook -- Now I'm curious which 2 don't.

Voice from the back: Billings and McKenzie.

Unknown: I may have an answer to Senator Triplett's question. (meter 21:51)

Chairman Cook closed the hearing on SB2143.

Senator Triplett made a motion to approve the amendment.

Senator Bekkedahl seconded.

There was no discussion.

Voice vote: all in favor. None opposed. Unanimous voice vote.

Senator Oehlke moved a do pass.

Senator Dotzenrod seconded.

There was no discussion.

Motion carried 7-0-0

Carrier: Senator Oehlke

15.0456.01001
Title.02000

Adopted by the Finance and Taxation
Committee

January 19, 2015

TD
1/19/15

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2143

Page 1, line 20, overstrike "levied" and insert immediately thereafter "appropriated"

Page 1, line 21, after the first "to" insert "an amount equal to"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 1-19-15

Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO 2143**

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 15.0456.01001

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Sen. Triplett Seconded By Sen. Bekkedahl

Committee voice vote in favor

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Dwight Cook			Senator Jim Dotzenrod		
Vice Chairman Lonnie Laffen			Senator Connie Triplett		
Senator Brad Bekkedahl					
Senator Dave Oehlke					
Senator Jessica Unruh					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 1-19-15

Roll Call Vote #: 2

**2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO 2096 2143**

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 15.0456.01001 Title 02000

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 AS Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Sen. Oehlke Seconded By Sen. Dabgenrod

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Dwight Cook	✓		Senator Jim Dotzenrod	✓	
Vice Chairman Lonnie Laffen	✓		Senator Connie Triplett	✓	
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	✓				
Senator Dave Oehlke	✓				
Senator Jessica Unruh	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Oehlke

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2143: Finance and Taxation Committee (Sen. Cook, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2143 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 20, overstrike "levied" and insert immediately thereafter "appropriated"

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Renumber accordingly

2015 HOUSE FINANCE AND TAXATION

SB 2143

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2143
3/4/2015
24316

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Mary Brucher

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to matching grants to counties for senior citizen services and programs.

Minutes:

Attachment #1, 2, 3, 4

Chairman Headland: Opened hearing.

Senator Oehlke: Introduced bill. Distributed testimony. See attachment #1.

Chairman Headland: Is there any testimony in support?

Pat Hansen, South Central Adult Services: Distributed testimony in support. See attachment #2.

Chairman Headland: You mentioned that passing this bill would restore 100% match of a mill? You said that at one time the state fully matched?

Pat Hansen: Yes, when the mills were passed it was 100 percent. They left the allocation the same but then more counties passed the mill levy for elders so instead of increasing the pot that it came out of they split that pot amongst more counties. It decreased over the years down to 66% at one point in time.

Chairman Headland: We understand how the value of a mill has increased over the past few years because of increases in taxable value. You're here saying that it hasn't been adequate and you need additional monies to meet the needs of the seniors.

Pat Hansen: With the cost of raw food to provide the meals and the cost of maintenance for the senior centers it isn't enough. In my counties we continue to provide outreach but a lot of the state has gone to options counseling and they don't provide outreach services. There are a lot of people that need one on one services that aren't funded at all. In the Feeding Grandpa the cost of the meals was \$7.41 and right now ours are at \$9.41 this year. Some of my counties we are providing services to so many people and the cost of that is so extensive that there's nothing left for the senior centers. A lot of these seniors are trying to raise money to keep the centers heated and such. In a community if a senior

center goes then the community dies because there are really not a lot of other places for them to gather.

Chairman Headland: The costs of running these senior centers have been bore by the local taxpayers and it seems that isn't adequate to sustain the increased costs to keep these centers open. You're asking us to go to 100% match. If we pass another bill that we will be hearing later, if we move to dollars per thousand versus mills how is that going to impact? The state will then be required to match a dollar for dollar whatever the local county puts forth towards operations?

Pat Hansen: Legally I don't know what the input would be on that. My counties all have two mills for elders and that's the maximum they can levy locally. We're not asking for a match on the second mill now so it depends on how you calculate how you determine what a mill is if you go to a different way of allocating the money than the counties.

Chairman Headland: Is there further support?

Donnell Preskey, North Dakota Association of Counties: Distributed testimony. See attachment #3.

Chairman Headland: Is the state going to be required to match 100% whatever the county budgets in the future or appropriates?

Donnell Preskey: I believe you are getting to the question that you asked about what happens if the mills to cents proposal passes. We are opposed to that concept. How do we answer all these funding proposals that are based on our mills system? I would believe that since we've changed what mills represents to dollars that dollar figure would be equivalent to your mill and would be the basis for the financial support in this bill and other bills as well.

Chairman Headland: In the governor's task force bill that we're going to be hearing later, how does that deal with senior mills; does it consolidate them into the general fund?

Donnell Preskey: I believe they left the senior mills, the library, and the noxious weeds on their own. I don't think they consolidated those levies.

Representative Haak: Does every one of the 53 counties levy these two mills or do some levy one and some levy two?

Donnell Preskey: I can get that information for you.

Representative Haak: Is there any county that levies no mills for senior mill?

Donnell Preskey: I can get that information for you.

Chairman Headland: Is there further support?

Josh Askvig, AARP North Dakota: Distributed testimony. See attachment #4.

Chairman Headland: What is AARP's role in senior centers?

Josh Askvig: We support the effort of funding through our work at the federal and state level in terms of supporting the funding that provides those supports. We don't do any direct interaction but we may at times provide an education of it if they ask us to but we don't financially support them or operate them or interact in any direct way.

Representative Schneider: If this bill passes would it take care of the unmet need or are there still some gaps?

Josh Askvig: It helps shore up a funding stream. I would guess there are needs beyond that but it gets them closer to not running out of money and having to raise money by doing bake sales and things for support.

Chairman Headland: Is there any further testimony in support? Is there any opposition? Are there any questions for the tax department? Seeing none we will close the hearing on SB 2143.

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2143
3/10/2015
24593

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to matching grants to counties for senior citizen services and programs.

Minutes:

Attached amendment #1

Chairman Headland: Distributed a proposed amendment. See attachment #1. This amendment takes out the increase from the state match to senior centers. We are looking at a revenue shortfall of about \$300 million today and we have to start making reductions. In my opinion this is the place to start. This removes the overstrike over eighty-five and removes the one hundred percent match. It leaves the change from "levy" to "appropriated" at the request of the association of counties. I think we should put the amendment on and pass the bill.

Representative Steiner: Made a motion to adopt the amendment 02002.

Representative Dockter: Seconded.

Representative Hatlestad: I'm going to oppose this amendment. I think when you take a look at all the tax breaks we've offered we can feed the senior citizens.

Representative Froseth: I will oppose it too. Somewhat of an increase would be beneficial even if was raised from 85 to 90; that would be about \$400,000.

Chairman Headland: If we passed this bill back over to the senate and it will go to conference committee. At that time we can decide if there is money to make an increase. I think we're trying to get it to the floor and get it passed to get it into conference committee. With the increase in there you may be jeopardizing the whole bill.

Representative Froseth: With your amendment it goes back to the original way we received it, doesn't it?

Chairman Headland: No. The amendment takes out the increase we received and puts the program back to its current level that it is today.

Representative Mitskog: The groups that administer these programs are probably the most resourceful groups that exist in our state. They leverage volunteers to deliver the meals and they provide such a needed service in our communities. I think about the cost versus the benefit of feeding our seniors and making sure they are well nourished. We've given out tax breaks in this committee and this isn't much money. I think it is short-sighted not to fund this.

Chairman Headland: This used to be a program that was exclusively funded locally. When they came to the state and asked for a state match that has opened it up to what we have today. How much more money is being provided locally? Are they coming to the state for most of the increase?

Representative Mitskog: Did you receive an answer on the local dollars county by county?

Chairman Headland: I did receive information relative to what each county has levied for mills.

Representative Trottier: I'm all for the match, however, with the current revenue situation I understand what the chairman is saying. I can go along with the amendment as much as I disagree with it but I understand what is going on here that we need to look at our budget and revenues.

Chairman Headland: This is probably an experience that not many of us have had to deal with at the legislature, dealing with less revenue. None of these decisions are taken lightly and none of these decisions are easy, they are hard. It's time in the session where we have to start making some of the hard decisions and this is one of them. I would hope to see that we should put this amendment on, pass the bill, and keep the opportunity alive if revenues change but I don't see it happening.

Representative Hatlestad: If we go back to the way we receive the bill there will be no conference committee. There are no changes to the bill so there will be no conference committee.

Chairman Headland: We received the bill at an increase from 85% match to 100% match. If we change it to go back to 85% match then that means we've changed the bill. If we want to move the bill forward there will be a conference committee.

Representative Klein: When I see the numbers of how much it costs to take people out of their homes and put them into a care facilities I think we need to take a look at where we are at. I will grudgingly support this amendment.

Chairman Headland: This isn't the only place that there is money involved in these senior centers. We have the mill match before us and this is what we have to deal with. Again, I am asking to put this amendment on so we can pass the bill.

Representative Schneider: I understand that you're trying to do bill tightening but for the folks who get one meal a day, they aren't the ones who can afford to tighten their belt.

Over the course of the session millions go in to support various businesses, production, data centers and so forth but this is a pretty small appropriation in the context of some of those. One year of home meals equals one day in the hospital which also equals six days in long term care. It's in our state interest, the interest of our seniors, and our rural towns where these senior centers means so much to them that we oppose this amendment and support this bill.

Representative Trottier: We've taken away from our churches and our communities in giving and have turned it over to the government.

Representative Klein: Question called.

Voice vote: Motion carried to adopt the amendment.

Representative Klein: Made a motion for a do pass as amended.

Representative Steiner: Seconded.

Roll call vote: 10 yes 4 no 0 absent

Motion carried for a do pass as amended.

Representative Trottier will carry this bill.

SL
3/10/15

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2143

Page 1, line 1, remove "and section"

Page 1, line 2, remove "57-39.2-26.2"

Page 1, line 19, remove the overstrike over "~~eighty-five~~"

Page 1, line 19, remove "one hundred"

Page 1, remove lines 23 and 24

Page 2, remove lines 1 through 14

Page 2, line 16, remove "Section 2 of the Act is effective for taxable events"

Page 2, remove line 17

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3-10-15
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2143**

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 15.0456. 02002 - line 19 + add line 5 remove 85 + remove 100 line 5

- Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Rep. Steiner Seconded By Rep. Dockter

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CHAIRMAN HEADLAND			REP HAAK		
VICE CHAIRMAN OWENS			REP STRINDEN		
REP DOCKTER			REP MITSKOG		
REP TOMAN			REP SCHNEIDER		
REP FROSETH					
REP STEINER					
REP HATLESTAD					
REP KLEIN					
REP KADING					
REP TROTTIER					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Voice vote = Motion carried.

Date: 3-10-15
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2143

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 15.0456.02002

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Rep. Klein Seconded By Rep. Steiner

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CHAIRMAN HEADLAND	✓		REP HAAK		✓
VICE CHAIRMAN OWENS	✓		REP STRINDEN	✓	
REP DOCKTER	✓		REP MITSKOG		✓
REP TOMAN	✓		REP SCHNEIDER		✓
REP FROSETH	✓				
REP STEINER	✓				
REP HATLESTAD	✓	✓			
REP KLEIN	✓				
REP KADING	✓				
REP TROTTIER	✓				

Total (Yes) 10 No 4

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Trotter

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2143, as engrossed: Finance and Taxation Committee (Rep. Headland, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (10 YEAS, 4 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2143 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, remove "and section"

Page 1, line 2, remove "57-39.2-26.2"

Page 1, line 19, remove the overstrike over "~~eighty-five~~"

Page 1, line 19, remove "one hundred"

Page 1, remove lines 23 and 24

Page 2, remove lines 1 through 14

Page 2, line 16, remove "Section 2 of the Act is effective for taxable events"

Page 2, remove line 17

Renumber accordingly

2015 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2143

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/2/2015
Job #25778

Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference committee

Minutes:

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Members present: Sen. Oehlke, Sen. Bekkedahl, Sen. Triplett; Rep. Dockter, Rep. Trottier, Rep. Mitskog.

Sen. Oehlke -- Our effort, or mine as main sponsor, was to increase that percentage of match from 85% to 100% of what the political subs contribute and it was mainly because that's what it was when it was first started, back in '81. The original effort was to create some dollars and cents for these folks that needed it and then in the early '90's, the state saw fit to rob those dollars just like they did a lot of other funds, as well. In a way, it's kind of been my little baby for the last few sessions. When I first got a look at this, it had come back to 65% and my first effort pushed it to 75% and then 85% a session or so later. It was an effort to get it back to 100%, so why do it? The reason to do it was because senior services in many cases across the state run out of money in November or so. They are doing everything they can to try and make ends meet and the demands on their services, from my perspective from what I see, are getting greater.

Rep. Trottier -- I have agreed with everything that you were talking about, trying to get it back to 1 mill but this one here, now, if the county were only levying at .5, I believe with this one, they could go up and appropriate from the county up to .85 and we would match it. It does give any of the counties that are not levying that much, they can go up to that amount now. The other thing we heard was they are getting help now with fuel costs, food costs are probably higher but fuel costs are somewhat less. We felt that the .85 where the counties can appropriate more money to the counties that don't meet the .85 would help them out.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I know I speak for my local county and city but the city of Williston has had to subsidize our senior citizen center quite a lot in the last couple of years because they aren't keeping up. This may be a way that would help that situation. I know that it is provincial to say that, but that is part of the effort that I am interested in.

Another question: I notice in the House version that removed section 2 of the amendment, could I ask what the discussion was relative to that removal?

Sen. Oehlke -- Absolutely. Some one want to comment on that?

Rep. Dockter --I think one of the reasons why we did take that out is because when we moved it back from 1 to .85, we had to take this out; and if we would go with some other figure we would actually have to put that back into the bill. If we would raise it, we would have to put that whole section back in, in order for that new percentage to be effective.

Sen. Oehlke -- So if we would raise it, it sounded like you all had something in your brain, relative to, were you thinking along those lines, Rep. Dockter?

Rep. Dockter -- No, my brain was actually not thinking that. We have a lot of tough decisions this session, as you know in tax. I just think that where we are at, and I was here as a freshman last session and I was on the same conference committee and we did move it up, that a lot of other legislation that we've had, we've just kept everything the same. We are not cutting but we are maintaining and kind of taking a breath and seeing where we are at next biennium, as far as funding. That's my position on this.

Sen. Triplett -- I agree that there are a lot of tough decisions coming in this session because of the reduced revenue expectations, but I look at expenditures of this sort from the opposite perspective that we are getting value for the money that we put into this, in the sense that all the little things that we can do to keep people in their homes prevents people from going to nursing homes sooner rather than later. Whether it's home health care or hospice care, or senior meals or any of the other large group of things that society can do to help people who may not have relatives close by to help them as they age, ends up saving us money. When people end up in a nursing home and become indigent as many people do after they've been there for a while, the state really has no choice but to pay those costs for them. They are exorbitant and going higher all the time. This little tiny bit of a fiscal note, when we had it at \$1.2 million is an investment in keeping people out of nursing homes and therefore is actually saving the state in the long-run. That's why it's hard for me to understand why you cut it. It seems to me that it is actually a benefit to a stressed budget to try to keep the cost down at the far end.

Sen. Oehlke -- Is that something like my mom used to say: don't be penny wise and pound foolish?

Sen. Triplett -- I think that would fit there.

Sen. Oehlke -- She used to tell me that a lot.

Rep. Mitskog -- There were discussions to that extent and recognizing the valuable service they provide to our seniors and the cost savings from keeping them in their homes and from the wellness checks to keeping them well-nourished and keeping health care costs down. There was extensive support and discussion regarding that issue and as Rep. Dockter said that with everything that faced our committee trying to keep increases and requests down. I had originally supported your bill at the full funding but I know that there

were committee members that thought that it should be less. I recognize the valuable service and the resourcefulness that is provided by these agencies.

Rep. Trottier -- I can't disagree with what either one of them said but I think that we all recognize that it's very valuable. It was, for us, looking at the fiscal note was a small part of it and then adjusting to if the counties want to appropriate another $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ mill for that amount, they can still do that. We are putting a burden on the counties, I realize that, but it is a local project. This takes away from what was said earlier, but in our small town, when I go there, there's a lot of millionaires coming in there to get services. They take advantage of it, and that's part of the program. People recognize that and the meals are cheaper. It's a gathering place and it does keep them out of the homes, there's no doubt about that. The main thing, for us, was the fiscal note on the 1 mill.

Rep. Dockter -- I know that we are talking cuts from your bill to what we passed. I need to reiterate that it's not a cut, it's just keeping everything the same. Now that we can appropriate up to .85, how many counties actually are below the .85? I would be interested in that.

Rep. Mitskog -- I have the information that was provided for the 2013 levies for senior programs. The current maximum is 2 mills and counties levying it are 51. The average is 1.53 and it looks like everybody is at least 1, with the exception of Divide at .71 and Billings and McKenzie are not levying anything. There are several that are at 2.

Sen. Oehlke -- So maybe you want to change that to .85 up to 2 mills? I remember seeing that information in our tax books, too. I knew there were very few that weren't participating to the mill match level. And quite a few a lot more.

Sen. Triplett -- I just wanted to respond to Rep. Trottier's comment about the millionaires eating at the senior citizens senior. I'm okay with that because it does indicate that there is a sense of community. A social atmosphere and it's not just low income people going there and being ghettoized. I know that the senior citizen centers are not allowed to charge more than, I think, \$6 for a meal but certainly if those millionaires are well-disposed toward the place and want to make separate donations off on the side, they can do that, and somebody ought to be suggesting that to them if they are regular attenders there. Maybe the fact that they feel welcome there and participate and see the value in it encourages them to make personal charitable donations to the senior citizen center.

Sen. Oehlke -- Well, Sen. Triplett, I have to agree. When my mother was receiving meals-on-wheels she certainly wasn't a millionaire but she also made darn sure that she paid her fair share, even though she couldn't get down to the senior center itself, when they came to the door, and she died in 1997, she made sure that she paid her \$5 for that meal every day.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I keep going back to the removal of the section 2, and can we ask any parties here any questions? My question relates and maybe it's just that I don't understand this, I think section 2, has a continuing appropriation in there but it also deals with the allocation of revenues and my question is subsection 5 of section 1, it says the state treasurer shall provide matching funds as provided... But then section 2 amendment that

was taken out in the House side, talks about placing the revenues from the state tax commissioners dedication to the state treasurer a portion of sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax revenues deposited into the fund. I just want to make sure that by deleting section 2 we are not removing the allocation of the revenues that has to be used by the state treasurer in section 1.

Ken Tupa with the North Dakota Senior Service Providers -- Following the House amendment I did inquire about the very section being removed, Sen. Bekkedahl, that you reference and visiting with one of the members in the House, I was told and I believe this is the reason why it is removed from the House version is because you had just the one slight amendment on there. The original bill had the one amendment on page 2, line 5, in order to affect that section, which is 57-39.2-26.2, there was no longer a change to that section and therefore you just removed it from the bill. It's still in statute. It would still be in statute. It's just that because of the process here, there was no further amendment in that section so it was removed from the bill.

Rep. Dockter -- So then, Ken, if we would figure out different from the .85, then we would have to put this back in, in order to get that change, correct?

Ken Tupa -- That is correct. Whatever number you decide on, if it's above .85 then, yes, that section 2 would need to be part of the bill again, at whatever that amount would be.

Rep. Dockter -- I agree with a lot of comments and from personal experience, I would go with my mother and we would deliver meals-on-wheels so we do have that in Burleigh County. It's not that I'm against this. Our fiscal climate, I feel that if we hold steady at where we're at, at the .85, and then we will see this again next session. As you said earlier, there's a lot of programs, not just this one, and we didn't have money in the early '90's and we took money from these programs and now we are trying to restore them since our fiscal situation is a little bit better. Now with what we have for the forecast for the next biennium, I think we should just take a break on this and keep it as is.

Sen. Oehlke -- Anywhere else you think we should be taking a break? I saw \$120 million going somewhere yesterday and they don't even have an agreement on what to do with it yet. I'm thinking we could use part of that.

Sen. Triplett -- If you have a general agreement that these are good program, as I think you do; if you have volunteered, as a youth, to deliver meals-on-wheels, you get it. You understand that there is a need out there. I might just try to prevail on you to go with us for the 100% and then leave the decision to the appropriations committee to find the balance. That is their job. Our job is the policy piece. From a policy standpoint, it seems that we are just saying we like this program. We think it is a good program. Pass it off to appropriations because then it would have the million dollar fiscal note on it again. If they think it is too much or if they don't buy our argument that it is actually a savings for the state because it keeps people out of nursing homes, then they could cut it back as they need to. It seems to me that this is a powerfully positive program in all of our communities across the state and we shouldn't be the ones to be closing down the possibilities just because we know that we have revenue issues. That's what we have our high-paid appropriators for is

to do all the balancing of all of the revenues and exceptions and exemptions. Could we prevail on you that way? Please?

Rep. Trottier -- In response to that, I do think though we have to share some responsibility on our fiscal policies. It would have been very easy to kick out all of the expenses and all of the things that were asked for. We just found it in our committee that it was very positive for us to be negative to keep things down there.

Sen. Triplett -- Are you rejecting the argument that this is a prevention? If you can keep one person per county out of a nursing home for 1 year, the state has saved a lot of money. We are not talking here about spending money. We are talking here about investing a tiny bit with the goal of saving a lot more. Are you rejecting that position?

Rep. Trottier -- In answer to that, absolutely not. My mom was at home and stayed there as long as she possibly could. She got meal-on-wheels. We lived through that and now she is in the nursing home. You brought up a really good point and that was why can't some of the responsibility go to the people that are using senior citizen services. That maybe that needs to be worked on, that they can share in that. I do have to remember that these people went through the 30's and the war-time and they are very, very conservative people. When they said \$5 for a meal she made sure that she paid the \$5 but she would not pay \$6. And I've seen that at a lot of the senior citizen centers that the meals are \$6, they pay \$6. Nobody has ever put a sign up and said "we are short of money, we could use some donations" because I do believe they would get it. I think that is an avenue that could be looked at. A little bit of shared cost with those kinds of things. I totally agree: it does keep a lot of people out of the nursing homes.

Rep. Mitskog -- I'm in health care and I have seen, first hand, the benefits of this program and how people benefit from improved nourishment. When they begin on meals-on-wheels, going from not having the service and attempting to cook, or pinch pennies, and if they are alone in their homes they oftentimes will skip meals and not having a well-balance food plan. I would agree with Sen. Triplett. I see the overwhelming support both from the Senate and the House, I would support, let's see what appropriations can do.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- My only question, at this point, was on the House side, and I'm curious about what information you had in hearings that we didn't have, was there any discussion in your hearing process about the increasing aging of some of our population and the numbers that are getting larger in some of these age groups that would access these services and the need for more funding? In my area, we are getting a lot of young people. I know there is an aging population in most of the state at this point. Was that discussed at all in your committee? I don't think we heard that in the Senate, that's why I'm curious.

Rep. Dockter -- Yes, Sen. Bekkedahl, they have it right here. AARP came in to our committee and they said: as of the 2010 census there were 133,350 North Dakotans who were between the age of 60-84. In 2020, that number is expected to rise to over 170,000 which is a 28% increase. We did get testimony from AARP on those numbers. To continue, I do understand you can have baby boomer generation now is starting, these programs are only going to get more and more stressed as the baby boomer population ages. We understand that.

Sen. Oehlke -- Is there a level on that fiscal note that you could live with? I know that you've probably got your marching orders but I'm just asking you? We don't do that on the Senate side, but...

Rep. Dockter -- I can tell. At this time, this is our first meeting. We will see what we can do, but as of right now I have the House position and I think going forward at .85, but we can look at it.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- My follow-up on my question about the numbers on new seniors coming into the program, at some point we all have to have some kind of recognition that as the state population grows, as we get larger and we attempt to provide the level of services that we have for the base population before we had this growth, there is going to have to be some increase in appropriations to get programs moving at the same level of service. Otherwise the service levels are going to degrade or, as Rep. Trottier pointed out, the local entities will have to put more skin in the game.

Rep. Dockter -- Sen. Bekkedahl, I do agree with that and that's why and I know and this is a small part but we have to be cautious because we have to look at all the budget because it will, and I agree with you 100%, be growing over time. We have to evaluate, with our fiscal climate, but once we commit any services then it is going to continue so we have to take a hard look and evaluate all these services that we have. Once we are committed then you have to make sure that you have the revenue to support these programs.

Sen. Oehlke closed the hearing on 2143.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/6/2015
Job #25835

Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grone

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl & Triplett; Rep. Dockter, Trottier & Mitskog present.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I would move that the House recede from their amendments on SB2143.

Sen. Triplett -- Seconded.

Rep. Trottier -- It's just the fiscal note that we talked about last week, the \$1.2 million is not a great, great amount but it is at this time when we don't know where we are at with the revenues and that kind of thing. I really prefer that we do the 85% and do the appropriated dollars and that we look at it in 2017 with moving forward if the revenues get higher.

Rep. Dockter -- And as far as the House position, this bill was killed and we brought it back. Hard to believe, but yes. We worked with the counties and they wanted levied stricken and put appropriated so we thought we could do that but keep it at 85. That is the history. I concur with what Rep. Trottier just said, also.

Sen. Triplett -- To follow up on the argument that I was making the last time that we met and the notion that is an investment rather than a cost, I did look up the testimony from the department of human services about how much we spend on long-term care in North Dakota and I am thinking that it is \$311 million right now for the state share in the current biennium and \$350 million for the estimate of the state share in the next biennium. I don't know what the average cost of long-term care across the state is, but if you said \$6,000/mo, so \$72,000 per person per year. Take the \$1.2 million, divide by 72,000, you are 16. If you keep 16 people out of nursing homes, if we kept 8 people out of nursing homes for 2 years, we would be paying for this program. If we keep 10 people out of nursing homes for 2 years, we would be spending less than if we didn't have this program. The testimony that we received from people who work with these programs day in and day

out, it's pretty compelling and obviously you can't ever prove a negative and so prevention is always one of those things that is up for discussion about what the real numbers are. I think across the state, by supporting programs like this and other things on the continuum of care that will work to keep people out of nursing homes in the long run we will save money. We don't really have much choice as a state, if people are indigent and they go into long-term care, we just write checks. The more programs of this sort that we can finance in an effort to keep people in their homes, which will make them happier citizens, as well as more accessible to their families, the better off we will all be. I just don't see your point that this is actually a fiscal cost. I see it as an actual savings.

Rep. Trottier -- I really can't disagree with you on anything. I don't think we've heard any accountability numbers as to where the counties are on their services. Are there surpluses sitting out there? Are they meeting all of their demands? Are some of the senior centers sitting pretty good?

Sen. Oehlke -- I can talk in specifics about the one in Devils Lake and it is usually right around the 3rd or 4th of November that they run out of money and so then what do they do? They have a bake sale. They do whatever they can to try to eek through to the end of the year. When they are doing those kinds of things then there's other services they are not being able to provide. They have managed, somehow, to carry through so that everybody is getting their meal but it's because it's become more of a community effort. I'm not saying that that is a bad thing. It's great to have rotary and Kiwanis pony up and get there and do things. At the same time, my initial interest on this was to try and get this back to where it was originally started and where the state was when it was more meaningful to them.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I could follow up a little bit with that with the city of Williston perspective. We have a 1 mill levy in Williams County that doesn't cover all the costs. In the last couple of years the city of Williston has brought up several hundreds of thousands of dollars in subsidy just to keep it open in our city. That's how important it is. There is definitely skin in the game at the county levels and I suspect maybe some other cities have had to do that in the past too. One thing you do not want to do is close your senior citizens center and take away every meals-on-wheels program that they have and expect that your citizens are going to, not just thrive, but survive under that environment. As a follow up to the 2013 levies for senior programs show the county average, the current maximum is 2, 51 counties levying. The county average is 1.53 mills. At the current rate in the House amendments at 85% we are just a little over half of the costs that we are covering in conjunction with the counties. I really feel that we could be doing better since the counties have already stepped up and done more than was originally expected of them with just 1 mill.

Rep. Mitskog -- I look at what we, as a legislature, do for k-12 education and higher education and are we doing enough for our seniors? I am wearing my health-care, we are acting in a preventative way to keep seniors in their homes, and we are being pro-active. It's an investment. In our House committee there was disagreements on the amounts and we were tasked with several very difficult decisions because of the decreased revenue. I'm wondering appropriations, what their thoughts would be.

Sen. Oehlke -- Have the clerk call the roll on the House receding from their amendment.

Senators -- 3 yes; Representatives 2 no, 1 yes. Failed.

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

SB2143

April 6, 2015

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No further comments, amendments, Senator Oehlke closed the hearing.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/7/2015
Job #25860

Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl & Triplett; Representatives Dockter, Trottier & Mitskog present.

Sen. Oehlke -- Any general comments, thoughts?

Rep. Dockter -- One of the suggestions that we've been kicking around is possibly, is there any way to have the House appropriations to take a look at it or would it have to go through the Senate appropriations?

Sen. Oehlke -- Or would it have to go through the Senate appropriations?

Rep. Dockter -- If we made any compromise to look at the funding?

Sen. Oehlke -- Well, don't they eventually all get together? So you are talking about receding from your amendment and doing something?

Rep. Dockter -- How it is right now, it would go back, because it is on your side. So I'm thinking it would go to your appropriations and I don't know if our appropriations would have a chance to look at it

Sen. Oehlke -- So, assuming that the House receded from its amendment and we reamended it to a percentage, yet to be determined, and then we passed it, then it would have to go to appropriations on our side because it would have a fiscal note.

Sen. Triplett -- It's already been to appropriations on our side, right?

Sen. Oehlke -- Yes, that's true, it's been to appropriations on our side.

Sen. Triplett -- If it ended up being the same or less, I don't think it would have to go back.

I was throwing around some numbers from memory yesterday and I thought I would just make sure that I corrected the record. I copied the testimony from SB2012 which is the department of human services budget, and this is the testimony regarding, specifically, the long-term care continuum budget. The overview of it is the state expects to spend \$653 million in nursing home facilities in the 2015-17 biennium and that is up from \$608 million in the current budget for an increase of about \$45 million. Of those numbers, just over half are general fund dollars so for the 2013-15 biennium the general fund dollars are \$315 million, for the 2015-17 the expectation is \$339 million for the \$24 million increase. I wanted to put that in the record. One of the attachments to that testimony was a chart showing the increase in daily nursing home rates from 1980 through 2017 and it is truly a frightening chart when you look at it and it shows for the year 2017, an expectation that average daily nursing home rates will be \$274.61/day, which when you multiply it out is just a bit more than \$99,000/year for having someone in a nursing home. Those numbers are a little different than what I reported yesterday.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I would move that the House recede from their amendments and that we further amend engrossed SB2143 on page 1, line 19 to the 90, and that we also further amend on page 2, line 5, the number 85 to 90 ninety.

Sen. Triplett -- I will second for the purpose of discussion.

Sen. Oehlke -- It has been moved and seconded that the House recede from their amendments and we reamend the 85 to 90 on both line 19 on page 1, and line 5 on page 2.

Sen. Triplett -- My discussion would be I thought I heard them suggesting that they might recede from their amendments so why would we settle for less than 100% if they are thinking about receding?

Rep. Trottier -- How many counties currently do have less than .85 mills? Are there very many counties that don't have...

Sen. Bekkedahl -- In response I count 4 counties of the 53.

Rep. Trottier -- Not very many. Where did the governor's budget end up with addressing this? I think they were going to put some more money into it and I don't know where that ended up.

Sen. Oehlke -- I don't recall, but I don't remember that they put more into it. I don't think that they addressed this particular piece of it. Would this make it a little more palatable than trying to swallow the whole bullet? This way our lobbyist would still have a job next session.

Rep. Dockter -- So we are talking \$406,000, is that correct?

Sen. Oehlke -- That would be roughly what it would be.

Rep. Dockter -- The House position, I don't know if, at this time with our funding; yesterday we had it where the bill was killed and we brought it back. You did come down quite substantially and I think the House is standing firm right now. We still have some time.

Sen. Oehlke -- Sounds like a 60's song.

Sen. Triplett -- We should probably just remind them that Sen. Bekkedahl's offer is only good for the next 4 minutes after which it will be off the table and we'll go back to our 100% position. That was your motion, wasn't it?

Sen. Bekkedahl -- Thank you, Sen. Triplett for those comments. You are correct. I would want to put a little perspective on this. We are talking about, over the 53 counties, an increase in funding for senior citizen programs within the counties. I understand that it is reimbursement but it's a reimbursement to counties that already levy an average of 1.53 onto this program, which is much more than the 1 that we trying to get to, initially. They are putting significantly skin in the game. In reference to the \$406,000 over 53 counties is \$7,660 per county. As small as that sounds in our world of billion dollar budgets, I think it would be greatly appreciated by the residents in the communities that have senior centers and provide those services.

Sen. Oehlke -- Rep. Trottier, I noticed that you are a sponsor of the bill, I thought you might have something to say.

Rep. Trottier -- In response to the last remark, it is only about \$8,000 per county so you can look at that the other way. It would only be \$8,000 for the county to raise that up to there, also. And if the locals get involved in raising some money or doing some of those things, it isn't much per center. I realize there are other senior services but it isn't very much per county.

Rep. Mitskog -- We are all mindful of the emphasis from the interim tax committee and the governor's work on property tax reform on holding local property taxes level or reducing mills. At what point do we have an obligation here to fund needed services? If we are going to send a message, I think it would be a bit contradictory and hypocritical when we say, you gotta do more, you gotta do your part at the local level. I respectfully disagree. The bill that had been in front of us a few weeks ago on property tax reform, I don't know if we want to send that message that they need to raise the mills locally, at the county level, to do more. As far as fund raising, I believe most senior centers they have to do fund raising just to make it to the end of the year. We are in tough times with budget, I go back to the people that have the numbers, can we have them look at it and see what they can do. The services are so needed. These are essential programs.

Sen. Triplett -- At the current rate that was proposed by the motion that we have on the floor, we are at something less than \$500,000 for the biennium, which is \$250,000 per year and at this projected rates, which I had underestimated by quite a bit yesterday, we are down to keeping 2.5 people across the entire state out of nursing homes right now. If these programs accomplish even that incredibly modest goal of keeping a couple of people out of nursing homes for a couple of years, this is a savings to the state, not a cost. It's an investment in keeping people in their own homes so that they can live lives which, by their

own definition, are higher quality lives than if they are in nursing homes. (meter 16:44-17:23)

Rep. Mitskog -- If I may read from "feeding grandpa", these statistics speak for themselves. These are undernourished or people who are at risk for hunger: 50% are more likely to be diabetic, and we all know with diabetes the complication that arise from that; twice as many are likely to be in overall poor general health; three times are more likely to suffer from depression; 14% more likely to have high blood pressure; nearly 60% are more likely to have congestive heart failure or have experienced a heart attack; twice as likely to report gum disease or asthma. The cost savings in health care to the state, from Medicaid, to other health care. Those people who are on PERS.

Sen. Oehlke -- We will have the roll call vote on the motion which would have the House receding from its amendment and reamending the 85 to 90. Senators 2 yes, 1 no; Rep. 0 yes, 3 no. Motion failed.

Rep. Trottier -- We've discussed this and very seriously and I appreciated that, but you almost get to the point and I think there is some truth to this: how many people are staying at home and should be in a nursing home? Do you understand what I'm saying?

Sen. Triplett -- I do understand what you are saying. Some people try too hard and stay too long to their own detriment. I don't have any statistics about that.

Rep. Trottier -- I don't either but everybody probably has personal experience, people saying "she should be in a nursing home". I don't know whether a senior center or the meals-on-wheels, they do keep them at home, maybe that is a detriment.

Sen. Triplett -- I would agree with you to some, maybe small percentage, but I would suspect that it would be somewhere in the below 5% range.

Sen. Oehlke -- I get the sense that maybe we need some time between now and the next conference committee. Maybe the 23rd.

Sen. Triplett -- Maybe I could make a suggestion that those of you from the House side would check with your leadership on the process. I think we are pretty clear on our side because of the fact that it was a Senate bill and it's already gone through appropriations, if it came back with you guys receding from your position or if we agreed on anything less than the 100%, I'm pretty sure that it would not go back to appropriations on our side. It would be up for a final vote.

Rep. Dockter -- We will talk to leadership and then I'll coordinate with you and see what we can get resolved sooner than later. I don't want to be in a conference committee on April 23rd.

Sen. Oehlke closed the hearing.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/14/2015
Job #26076

Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Attachment #1

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl and Triplett; Representatives Dockter, Trottier and Mitskog all present.

Sen. Oehlke -- What have we got? I see you handed out the money thing.

Rep. Trottier -- (Attachment #1) Rep. goes through attachment item by item.

Sen. Oehlke -- The mill levy payments to counties, is this the state side of it or the county side of it, or both sides of it?

Rep. Trottier -- This was payments to the counties from the state.

Rep. Dockter -- If you look on top, it shows the match numbers. I thank Rep. Trottier for looking into this and that is our point: the Senate is at 1, we are at .85. Regardless, if we don't do anything because of valuations and assessments, they are going to get an increase. It's not the increase that the Senate is looking for but if you look at the biennium 14-15, we are going to be about a \$5M appropriation and that is just going to keep going up with valuations.

Sen. Oehlke -- Rep. Dockter, is your assumption in this matter that the income to these entities is going up but their expenses are staying level, since 2010, is that what I can assume from your categorical statement?

Rep. Dockter -- I am sure that their expenses, as everything else, goes up.

Sen. Oehlke -- And maybe that there is less older people because the baby boomers aren't getting to that age. Is that the other category I can assume?

Rep. Dockter -- As Rep. Trottier mentioned previously there is an increase. Do you have those numbers so we could take a look at those? We are providing you numbers that counties are getting increases.

Sen. Oehlke -- I can tell you that it costs more for a cup of coffee than it did in 2010. When I go down to the restaurant in the capitol you weigh your salads by the ounce. Even from 2 years ago, prices in our cafeteria are significantly more. If you want to know what that is, go buy a pound of hamburger, go buy a steak. Certainly the expenses, relative to these operations are probably far exceeding the income they get because they run out of money, at least in November, if not sooner. The folks that depend on this don't have a lot of other options and that is our point. I would entertain a motion to increase this level. Otherwise, I will get you the numbers and we will be having another meeting.

Rep. Trottier -- That's really a good idea and it gets to accountability. We don't have any idea whether there is 100% that are short on their budgets every year or if 10% of them are short.

Sen. Oehlke -- There are people behind you that could give you the numbers right now or they could get them to us shortly.

Rep. Mitskog -- I look at these numbers and what's changed since 2006 to 2015 is the price of food. I am going to single out beef. Here is a chart from 2001 the price of beef to the record high beef prices just in recent days (shows a graph on her ipad). That's what changed. To keep up with keeping even with the cost of food and now the suggestion that produce is going to be record high because of the California drought and so to provide a well-rounded meal for seniors to include produce, they are going to experience increased costs this summer.

Rep. Trottier -- Can I show Rep. Mitskog something? Shows his pork pin and states that pork is cheaper today than it was 6 years ago. And chicken, and us older people eat a lot of chicken.

Sen. Oehlke -- We will get some number and close the hearing for today.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/16/2015
Job #26155

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Attachments #1, #2

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl and Triplett; Representatives Dockter, Trottier and Mitskog all present.

Sen. Oehlke -- Good morning committee. Last meeting you brought some stats in and opened the ball so I thought we would gather some information of our own. **(Attachment #1)** North Dakota's aging population: people and trends of seniors ages 65 and older. The other handout is relative to individual facilities around the state and their increase in costs in the last 4 or 5 years. **(Attachment #2)**. Sen. Oehlke relates a story about his truck and his dogs. The story presents an analogy between his faithful old truck and the people that this bill provides services for: both of them have been faithful and served their families and communities well and do not owe the legislative assembly decision makers anything. Through their years of being productive citizens in North Dakota, they have paid their fair share and are now entitled to be provided the services that this bill, if funded, will provide. I would certainly entertain an amendment to go back to 100% and have you take that back to the House and tell them to pass this bill. These people do not owe us anything.

Rep. Trottier -- That was a good story. I don't disagree with you on anything, other than certain small items. The government is getting into more and more, from putting small children into school programs, and now here we have seniors that have been very proud people, benefiting from a welfare program, even though they may not call it that today. It is a subsidy. These programs take away from the communities and the churches and the things that they have done in the past. The government is taking that over. The local people and organizations aren't putting support into it because the government is doing it. The funding should be done locally.

Rep. Mitskog -- Rep. Trottier, I would just point out Medicare. What is Medicare? A government run insurance program for seniors. The other point, when we look to our communities and churches and various groups to help offset these costs, I am a small business owner and we are hit up all the time to help support the community in many, many

ways. Do we not owe it to our seniors who have given so much and this is not that much money. We support all levels of education. What are we doing for our seniors?

Sen. Bekkedahl -- Rep. Mitskog, that doesn't count the pro bono work that most of us in the professional health fields do, all the time, for the people who have the greatest need and don't want to ask for the help. We do it gladly and thankfully and I know that it is appreciated. The communities step up all the time to the plate. I have spent significantly through the years in my community. Whether you call these services welfare or not, these people have paid for these services at some point over their lives. I don't think that we are asking too much to find even \$400,000 or \$1.2M, whatever that number is, to show some appreciation for their contributions. Churches in my community are busy but they are not as busy as they were when I was a child. Membership is declining. We are becoming a more secular society and that limits the activities that those people can do in the missions they used to have. These are safety net programs.

Sen. Triplett -- I will just repeat one more time what I said at the first meeting and each one since, in my opinion, this isn't even an expense. This isn't a government expense. This is a small investment in preventing the spending of other money which we are required by law to spend. If people who are indigent end up in nursing home care, we will absolutely pay the bill and it is very, very expensive. If this entire program can keep a small handful, fewer than 10 people, out of a nursing home over the course of 2 years, this is not a cost of government, this is a savings. All the rest of this conversation has been lovely but it is getting pretty repetitive and I think that I am going to excuse myself from this committee because there is nothing worth talking about anymore. I appreciate Sen. Oehlke's suggestion that we, as a group, put it back to the full match as the bill intended, you guys take it back, if you want to advocate to kill it that's fine with me. I would rather see that than see us go on quibbling about this. We are not getting anywhere.

Rep. Trottier -- I don't disagree that if this was to shut down we'd see a lot of people going into a nursing home. I understand that the Senate did add \$402,000 for senior meals in the Human Service budget. The House side has looked at that and is going to leave it in there.

Sen. Oehlke -- Much of that is federal dollars, you know that, right?

Rep. Trottier -- But does not \$402,000 come from the state and then the feds match also?

Sen. Oehlke -- Not positive about that.

Rep. Trottier -- In fact it is for home-delivered meals. There was \$749,000 but there was \$302,000 taken out for inflation. That's maybe where the \$400,000 is. There is, supposedly, about \$402,000 more in for senior meals. And as valuations and assessments go up it is increasing every year. I believe the money is going to be there.

Sen. Oehlke -- It sounds like, Rep. Trottier, you have all the ammunition that you need to kill this on your side then. **I'd entertain a motion for a 100% match.**

Sen. Triplett -- So moved.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- Seconded.

Sen. Oehlke -- That would be a change from where it says 85 to 100 and restore the information on page 2 and also at 100. Would that be correct?

Discussion?

Rep. Dockter -- I will be voting no on this. You could take it back, just as easy, and kill it on your side. I will resist. We will see how it goes. We will meet one more time after this, if this doesn't go through and then we can decide there. You can either take it back and kill it or we can figure out a compromise.

Sen. Oehlke -- Well, now you said the word compromise. What are you talking about here, Rep. Dockter?

Rep. Dockter -- I will be resisting this motion at the 1.

Roll call vote on motion for House to recede from House amendments. Senators 3 yes; Representatives 1 yes, 2 no. Motion failed.

Sen. Oehlke -- Representatives, I do think that maybe your House folks would like to vote on this.

Rep. Trottier -- Suggestion. It is a good idea, if we could come back this afternoon.

Sen. Oehlke -- Sen. Triplett, can we hang on to you until this afternoon?

Sen. Trottier -- Okay, one more time.

Sen. Oehlke adjourned the meeting.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/17/2015
Job #26207

Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alise Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl and Triplett; Representatives Dockter, Trottier and Mitskog all present.

Sen. Oehlke -- Good morning and welcome back. A little bird was hanging out by the elevators this morning, Rep. Dockter, and mentioned something, did you want to share with the rest of the committee?

Rep. Dockter -- That bird got shot.

Rep. Trottier: I move that the Senate recede from the Senate bill 2143.

Rep. Dockter -- Seconded.

Sen. Oehlke -- It's been moved and seconded that the House recede from House amendments. Is that what you are saying?

Rep. Trottier -- No, the Senate recede.

Sen. Oehlke -- We either have to accede, or...

Rep. Trottier -- That's what I meant. The Senate accede to the House amendments.

Sen. Oehlke -- So the offer would be for the Senate to accede to the House amendments? Okay, and there is a second. Discussion?

Sen. Oehlke -- Do you want to share any particular reason why? Is it because the income tax bill is coming up and you are going to spend \$108M on that, or what's the deal? Or is it because there is really \$700M sitting in the balance instead of that \$300M that you thought there was a couple days ago. Share with me.

Rep. Trottier -- Well, it's gotten to be such an unknown and, as we look on this senior mill levy payments for the counties, currently projected for 2015, it's \$2.6M and that is matched by the counties. That's \$5.3 or \$10.6M for a biennium, whereas 5 years ago it was \$2.6 x 2, \$5.3. So it has doubled in 5 years.

Rep. Dockter -- If you looked on the one hand-out that we had, actually the number of counties with the maximum of 2 has been dropping since we've had the increases. In 2015 it's going to be down to 11. It was a high of 15 in 2012. It went up a little bit and then it's gone down and so some of these counties must feel that they have enough where they don't have to appropriate or levy against to get the senior meals. There are always going to be some counties that need more money but it looks like since we've been doing the increases that it's down.

Sen. Triplett -- And isn't that a good thing? We in the legislature have had a program for the last 5 sessions committed to putting policies in place that would reduce property taxes. This is one tiny little piece of that and so what you just presented would say to me that it's working. In addition to reducing the local share of education and now this year we are possibly going to be reducing the local share for social services and other things along the way, this is one teeny tiny piece of that which says that it's working. Increasing the state's share of a variety of programs allows county governments to reduce their property taxes which is what people say they want: lower property taxes.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I could perceive from that then that it's the House's position that they are opposed to property tax relief.

Rep. Dockter -- No, I was just pointing that out, but they are getting increases because the counties valuations are increasing.

Sen. Triplett -- Property tax relief comes in variety of different levels. You can also say that the idea of reducing the increase is property tax relief. We all understand that costs for everything have risen, over time, so the fact that the dollars go up doesn't mean that people aren't getting property tax relief and you can't go back and relive life as if something hadn't happened. If the state weren't paying these dollars, it might have gone up quite a bit more. The idea that some counties that were at the maximum are now pulling back away from the maximum says that they are being responsible and responsive to their own constituents by not claiming the maximum when the state provides some additional funds.

Sen. Oehlke -- Rep. Dockter, are you just going to keep referring to this one sheet of paper or are you going to bring in anything else that I brought in to the meeting a couple days ago?

Rep. Dockter -- No, we can talk about property tax relief and when counties reduce mills by 15 mills and people's property taxes still go up, I go back to the fact that valuations, and if you are a property owner it's a good thing, it's gone up and they have assessed higher and these counties are reducing mills but your taxes still go up.

Sen. Oehlke -- Is there any recompense for that?

Rep. Dockter -- Excuse me?

Sen. Oehlke -- Recompense? A solution. What is your solution for that? Do you ever go to county meetings, city meetings? Do you go to those?

Rep. Dockter -- No, I don't.

Sen. Oehlke -- You know, you should do that. Because that is your solution. You go to their budget meetings and that is where the rubber meets the road on that issue. It doesn't meet the road here. It meets at those meetings. You should be attending those as a legislator and sharing that information with them that they have budgets and that's how the mills should fit in or that's how the property tax should fit in.

Rep. Trottier -- Getting back to lowering of the number of counties that went from 2 down, that does to me signal that they feel, in their counties, that they've got enough money. They are saying that we don't need to keep it at that because our senior services are adequate and so we can cut the budget a little bit.

Roll call on a motion for the Senate to accede to House amendments. Senate 3 no; Representatives 2 yes, 1 no. Motion failed.

Rep. Trottier -- I think we are ready to appoint a new committee.

Sen. Oehlke closed the hearing.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/20/2015
Job #26281

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Chairman Cook opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl and Triplett; Representatives Dockter, Trottier and Mitskog all present.

Sen. Oehlke -- Anything new from the weekend?

Rep. Trottier -- In reviewing the numbers again, the senior mill levy payments to counties, from 2014 to 2015 it looks like it's about \$360,000, would you agree? That's what it is projected to be in 2015.

Sen. Oehlke -- Were you adding up numbers here? Which columns are you adding up?

Rep. Trottier -- Paid in 2014 and paid in 2015. They would have matched up so in 2015, looks to me like it would be about \$700,000 increase, if it remains the same at .85.

Sen. Oehlke -- Oh, you are assuming that from 2014 to 2015 that similar increase should happen from 2015 to 2016, is that your assumption?

Rep. Trottier -- Yes.

Sen. Oehlke -- Okay.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- That is all tied to valuation increases, obviously. Nobody is out there levying more taxes just to try to get more money from the state in this formula. Valuation increases are happening statewide. This is just reflecting what's happening out there. If that's the case, we have a board of equalization that's going to meet May 6th and in that process the state mandates that we fall between the windows. If we don't, the state increases it for us. There are state statutes that have to drive these valuations as well. If these are problem numbers, maybe we should adjust the standards that the state has for the equalization process.

Rep. Dockter -- Rep. Trottier's point is that just by valuations alone, the state's match in the amount that has to come out is continuing to increase every year without even having an increase to the fund. The House's position, any increase other than .85, I don't think it would pass in the House. In conversations with people that the one amendment that has from levy to appropriate that they need that in the bill because that really would help the counties out.

Sen. Oehlke -- Oh, I don't think they really need it, Rep. Dockter. I don't know if it's that big a deal to them. Why is that such a huge thing for them? It's just a word change. They've been doing it that way anyway.

Your inflationary argument, as sound as it might seem when you look at it from one end, probably fails to really consider the inflationary costs to the services that they provide. We've talked about meal on wheels, etc., but services that these folks provide in terms of outreach and health care, clipping toenails on people that can't do it themselves for fear of injuring themselves. Some of these services are pretty important stuff. The costs of all those services go up incrementally probably faster than your adjustment. For instance, Ramsey County, if your theory holds accurate, they would get roughly \$3,500 more in the next year for their inflationary increase in coverages. Rep. Trottier, Ramsey County runs out of money in the middle of November. Do you think they can get by on that inflationary increase that you are talking about, \$3,500, for a month and a half? Paying the salaries for the people that work there, buying the food, preparing it, is that your answer to this? It sounds like a lot of money when you take the bottom line and say, well it's \$300,000 more, but when you break it down by county, it's not nearly as significant.

Rep. Trottier -- They run out the middle of November, you say, and it looks like they are spending less than \$3,000/month.

Sen. Oehlke -- You have to remember this isn't their entire budget. I don't know exactly how much more, but it is significant. I can get exact numbers from Ramsey County before another meeting.

Rep. Dockter -- The figure would actually be \$7,000, because their valuation went up so they would get \$3,500 plus the match from the state so it would be \$7,000. This is just showing what they get from the state for a match.

Sen. Oehlke -- A mill in Ramsey County runs something around \$38,000. So they would get \$38,000 from the county for the year. I think Ramsey County does a mill and a half. So Ramsey County, 2014, was \$59,390. We are splitting hairs. Our position is that our failure to recognize the expenses that they have, and our failure to do the match that this benefit was intended for in the first place is causing these folks to run out of money. If they run out for a week and have to do a bake sale to cover that little bit, I guess I don't have a problem with that but these are our neediest, our weakest, people that need the most help in the state except for the children that can't protect themselves, and I don't feel that we are doing the best that we can for them.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- I appreciate Rep. Trottier bringing our attention back to this because the \$360,000 increase in here, it looks like there are 5 counties: Burleigh, Cass, Stark, Ward and Williams that account for over \$200,000 in that increase. So you have 5 out of 53 counties that account for more than half of the increase. I'm looking at other numbers. I am just picking out counties like Grant, from \$11,500 to \$12,700. That's \$1,200. Bottineau County \$40,436 to \$41,806, that \$1,400. I think that is more the norm than these huge valuation numbers that we are talking about. If you take those 5 out of the mix and the next 5, you will get closer to the \$300,000. I'm looking at Adams County, an increase of \$900. Most of these are increases under \$1,000 or at least under \$2,000. I'm not sure the problem is as rampant as it sounds when you say \$360,000. There are big counties that are accounting for a majority. In Williams County my valuations, since I started 20 years, were 13,000 a mill and they are not 160,000 a mill.

Rep. Mitskog -- In Richland County, can you tell me what the increase is?

Sen. Bekkedahl -- It's a little less than \$3,500 increase.

Rep. Mitskog -- It's interesting in Richland County. I'm going to single out Wahpeton. Wahpeton has done a very good job in the last few years of enhancing our senior housing. With that there are senior apartments that don't have meal services so they rely on meals on wheels or visiting our senior centers. Demand in our local community for these services has increased just because we have grown our senior population in Wahpeton.

Sen. Oehlke -- If you feel that strongly about some of these big numbers, maybe you should isolate out these counties and like Burleigh, for instance, that the amendment doesn't apply to them. Do you want to work that out?

Rep. Trottier -- That sound like a possibility.

Sen. Oehlke -- What do you think about that, Rep. Dockter?

Rep. Dockter -- Yes, we could take a look at that.

Sen. Oehlke -- Do you think that just because Burleigh County went up \$35,000 last year that they ought to be penalized? Is that your theory? It is your theory! I like it. I am not so sure that Burleigh County would like it, or Grand Forks County, either. They went up \$11,000.

Rep. Mitskog -- What counties are you representatives from?

Rep. Dockter -- Burleigh.

Rep. Trottier -- Grand Forks.

Sen. Oehlke -- They were pointed out because they are one of the huge benefactors. Cass County is another one. Are they really benefitting? If you went and talked to them, they may not be suffering and running out as quickly as some of the smaller counties do, but one thing that you have to understand when you have smaller counties, there is a lot of

the static costs that are there no matter what. They have to have a physical plant, they have to have electricity, they have to have a cookstove. Some of the costs that smaller counties have the larger places like Fargo or Grand Forks would be able to do it per-person cheaper. That doesn't mean that they don't have some needs that aren't being met too. It's not a money issue. If it were, we wouldn't have passed a tax relief bill that no one asked for, last week.

Rep. Dockter -- That was a Senate bill that you guys passed out?

Sen. Oehlke -- Absolutely.

Rep. Dockter -- Just checking.

Rep. Mitskog -- I would just point out that what we have to consider is the growth in senior population in our largest communities. You are seeing a migration of seniors moving to these communities for housing options and medical services. I would assume that the demand for services in your communities: Grand Forks, Bismarck, Fargo, the larger communities that have medical services, is growing in the senior area.

Rep. Oehlke -- Rep. Dockter, I should remind you that the Senate tax bill that was passed out was done so before the March 18th estimates that Moody's did. You had it in your hands after that.

Rep. Dockter -- We liked it so much that we didn't make amendments. We will go back in and we've been talking with some people that have been working with the budget, with the senior budget, and see what we can do and have another meeting.

Rep. Trottier -- Would you be against a 1.1 match?

Sen. Oehlke -- What does that mean?

Rep. Trottier -- 1.1mill versus the 1 mill.

Sen. Oehlke -- To go higher than the 1 mill match?

Rep. Trottier -- Yes.

Sen. Oehlke -- And your reason for that would be what?

Rep. Trottier -- I can't give you a reason for it but...

Sen. Oehlke -- Those would be good things to have. If you feel that is warranted. So far that hasn't been the indication. So far we have been going backwards on our initial offer.

Rep. Trottier -- We are afraid that whatever we get to the floor, if it goes over .85 it's going to get killed on the floor. And then we are right back to where we were. At least with this here, it does give the county the authority to appropriate for it and, like you said, some of them do appropriate one way or another now.

Sen. Bekkedahl -- Two things with that issue. One, we are forcing a property tax increase on to the local levels to get a little bit more funding. I think the general public would not appreciate that we are doing it that way. Secondly, I know how much we chafe at the state level about federal mandates; I don't think that is a road that we want to go down either. Looking at the 10 largest county changes, here's \$260,000. The other 41 counties are accounting for \$100,000. That means the average increase here is \$2,500 that the state paid more than the year before. With the increased expenses for these places, I don't think that we are overdoing it at this point.

Rep. Trottier -- To make it clear in my mind, they are appropriated or given out according to the mill levies in the towns, is that not right? The county doesn't get the money. They have to use the mill levies from that community, right?

Sen. Oehlke -- I'm not sure I understand your question.

Rep. Trottier -- The state takes the county money, the money that has been levied and sends it to the counties and then the county divvies it out to all the communities. Is that based strictly on the cities mill levy?

Sen. Oehlke -- We could probably get an answer on that from...

Rep. Trottier -- My point is, is it being distributed fairly to each community? Is it based on mill levies?

Rep. Mitskog -- We may have people in the room that could answer that.

Sen. Oehlke -- Is there someone who would like to jump up and explain that? Please come up to the microphone and identify yourself.

Sheryl Jongerius, Director of Dickey County Senior Citizens -- I've been doing this job for 33 years and dealing with mill levy for 33 years. The mill levy law, 57-15-56, describes how the mill levy has to be applied to for the county and the county commissioners have control of that. In each county how it is distributed among county services providers or clubs is decided in each county. There are 51 answers to your question. All of us have to apply using the same form. All of us have to do an annual report using the same form. In some counties, like mine, my agency is a service provider for the whole county and all of the mill levy comes to us and we contract with our local senior centers to pay some of their expenses. Instead of the money going directly to one, it comes to us and we pay them. In some counties, and your county is the one example that I know of, there was a lawsuit in Grand Forks County about how mill levy money gets divided and the same formula is in effect that was in the 80's from this lawsuit. Whether it makes sense now or not, I can't speak to that but I do know that it goes to different communities, based on the percent that were set in that lawsuit so no one has wanted to rock the boat since. I know for legislators it is probably easier if there is one answer that fits everything, but for mill levy money there isn't one answer that fits everything. The reason that the law was written that way is so that it could be very versatile.

Sen. Oehlke -- Do you find in Dickey County that you run short at the end of the year for these services?

Sheryl Jongerius -- Until very recently, we have. The increases in valuations have helped considerably and, as you all know, we've gotten more money in the human service budget which always becomes an issue. For many years, whenever we wrote checks, it was pay the staff first and we will put the checks in the drawer until we get enough cash so they don't bounce. That was about 30 years of my experience. Having extra money is not something that is relative in our world. Like Fargo and Grand Forks are getting the big valuation increases and I know in the Fargo region, the demand for increases in Fargo have just gone crazy. Everything that they do has gone way up because of the population. For meals, for example, they are going to provide 70,000 meals without reimbursement this year. Yes, they are running out of money too. If the House could see their way clear to do a little bit more than .85 that would sure help. We have put the services for seniors first.

Sen. Oehlke -- I thought that was an interesting last line, thank you for that. They put the services for seniors first. I think we should do that too. Do you want to quit or come back?

Rep. Trottier -- Come back.

Sen. Oehlke closed the hearing.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

SB2143
4/21/2015
Job #26303

Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Alice Grove

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Conference Committee

Minutes:

Chairman Oehlke opened the conference committee on SB2143. Senators Oehlke, Bekkedahl present, Triplett absent; Representatives Dockter, Trottier and Mitskog present.

Sen. Oehlke -- I have gotten a bit more information in the last days which I think is interesting. Someone just shared with us how much Bismarck and Fargo are going to be short in the next year in terms of dollars and it is significant. If you didn't go out of here yesterday impressed by knowing that Fargo is going to be short 70,000 meals then maybe nothing would impress you. Just in 2013 to 2014, this information shows a .91cent per meal increase. We do well over a million dollars of senior meals a year. That increase only accounts for \$920,000 to the various senior centers that provide these services. And that is not the only services that they provide. The health and medical side of it is huge. I know that we've talked about something we could do and I'm wondering if anyone has an idea.

Rep. Trottier -- We've fought over this for 8 meetings up to now and to the opposing members over here it has become an issue with the public and with a lot of people that we are against senior citizens. It has come out that way and it probably should be for making cuts and this isn't a cut but we have been offering to go along with what we had before. The main issue and concern that I have is the state taking charge of a senior program. I look back home and the two areas where I grew up and where I live now; these are local programs, and as I mentioned before, the town I am in the churches, the legions and the local community would be more than happy to help if a senior center is struggling. And yet I see why the state gets involved in providing dollars for a lot of different programs that are out there. I understand that and this has been an excellent program with the transportation and the meal on wheels and the senior centers and all of the benefits that they get. This morning we would like to offer a .875 mills and that is about a \$203,000 increase and along with the \$720,000 that will be raised from increased mill income through the county it would be right close to a million dollar increase for the biennium.

Rep. Dockter -- I agree with Rep. Trottier and I also talked to appropriations. This is just the policy side. Appropriations are still having conference committee with senior mills for other funds besides what we are talking about. When I talked to appropriations with the DHS budget, they are still working out increases also in their budget.

Sen. Oehlke -- Do we need to wait until they are done to finalize this?

Rep. Dockter -- No, I think we should try to get our policy done first and then they can go from there to see how much more money they can appropriate.

Sen. Oehlke -- So 87.5, that was your effort at meeting halfway? Meeting halfway in my book would have been 92.5 because we started out at 1 for 1 when we sent it over to the House. Is there any appetite for that over on your side?

Rep. Dockter -- In the House we want this to pass and I think anything above this number will be very difficult to pass on the floor. We are trying to get some extra money and also what I mentioned with appropriations in order for this program to get as much dollars as they can. If we go any higher I don't think it will pass in the House.

Sen. Oehlke -- So your motion would read that the Senate accede to the House amendment and further amend and change the... We had the word appropriated in there in the first place and that wasn't an issue. But if you receded and we replaced the 85 on line 19 with 87.5 and that would reestablish the language on the second page as well and we would change the words on line 5 would go to 87.5 instead of .85.

Rep. Trottier -- We would like to leave appropriate in there, also.

Sen. Oehlke -- When we sent that over, I believe that was in there.

The House recede and reamend.

Motion by Representative Trottier, seconded by Rep. Dockter that the House recede and amend. Roll call vote, Representatives 2 yes, 1 no; Senators 2 yes, 1 absent.

Sen. Oehlke closed the hearing sine die.

15.0456.02003
Title.04000

Adopted by the Conference Committee

April 21, 2015

TV
4/21/15

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2143

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on page 799 of the Senate Journal and page 953 of the House Journal and that Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2143 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 19, replace "one hundred" with "eighty-seven and one-half"

Page 2, line 5, replace "one hundred" with "eighty-seven and one-half"

Renumber accordingly

**2015 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2143 as engrossed

Senate "Enter committee name" Committee

- Action Taken**
- SENATE accede to House Amendments
 - SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 - HOUSE recede from House amendments
 - HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows

 - Unable to agree**, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Sen. Bekkedahl Seconded by: Sen. Triplett

Senators	4/2	4/6		Yes	No	Representatives	4/2	4/6		Yes	No
Sen. Dave Oehlke	X	X		X		Rep. Jason Dockter	X	X			X
Sen. Brad Bekkedahl	X	X		X		Rep. Wayne Trottier	X	X			X
Sen. Connie Triplett	X	X		X		Rep. Alisa Mitskog	X	X		X	
Total Senate Vote				3	0	Total Rep. Vote				1	2

Vote Count Yes: 4 No: 2 Absent: 0

Senate Carrier _____ House Carrier _____

LC Number _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment

**2015 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2143 as engrossed

Senate "Enter committee name" Committee

- Action Taken
- SENATE accede to House Amendments
 - SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 - HOUSE recede from House amendments
 - HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
 - Unable to agree, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Sen. Bekkedahl Seconded by: Sen. Triplett

Senators	4/2	4/6	4/7	Yes	No	Representatives	4/2	4/6	4/7	Yes	No
Sen. Dave Oehlke	X	X	X	X		Rep. Jason Dockter	X	X	X		X
Sen. Brad Bekkedahl	X	X	X	X		Rep. Wayne Trottier	X	X	X		X
Sen. Connie Triplett	X	X	X		X	Rep. Alisa Mitskog	X	X	X		X
Total Senate Vote				2	1	Total Rep. Vote				0	3

Vote Count Yes: 2 No: 4 Absent: 0

Senate Carrier _____ House Carrier _____

LC Number _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment Change 85 to 90 on page 1, line 19, and on page 2, line 5

**2015 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2143 as engrossed

Senate Finance & Tax Committee

- Action Taken**
- SENATE accede to House Amendments
 - SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 - HOUSE recede from House amendments
 - HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
 - Unable to agree, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Sen. Triplett Seconded by: Sen. Bekkedahl

Senators	4/14	4/16		Yes	No	Representatives	4/14	4/16		Yes	No
Sen. Dave Oehlke	X	X		X		Rep. Jason Dockter	X	X			X
Sen. Brad Bekkedahl	X	X		X		Rep. Wayne Trottier	X	X			X
Sen. Connie Triplett	X	X		X		Rep. Alisa Mitskog	X	X		X	
Total Senate Vote				3	0	Total Rep. Vote				1	2

Vote Count Yes: 4 No: 2 Absent: 0

Senate Carrier _____ House Carrier _____

LC Number _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2143, as engrossed: Your conference committee (Sens. Oehlke, Bekkedahl, Triplett and Reps. Dockter, Trottier, Mitskog) recommends that the **HOUSE RECEDE** from the House amendments as printed on SJ page 799, adopt amendments as follows, and place SB 2143 on the Seventh order:

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on page 799 of the Senate Journal and page 953 of the House Journal and that Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2143 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 19, replace "one hundred" with "eighty-seven and one-half"

Page 2, line 5, replace "one hundred" with "eighty-seven and one-half"

Renumber accordingly

Engrossed SB 2143 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

2015 TESTIMONY

SB 2143

Senior Mill Levy Match

January 19, 2015

Senate Finance and Tax Committee

Senator Oehlke

The Senior Mill Levy Match was established by the ND Legislature in 1971 to provide funding for services for senior citizens. The 1991 Legislative Assembly amended the program and directed the types of expenses for which mill levy funds could be spent to services designed to assist seniors in maintaining their independence. These services include home delivered meals, congregate dining, transportation, outreach assistance, and health related services.

The original appropriation for the Senior Mill Levy Match program was sufficient to provide dollar-for-dollar match of what was being generated at the county or city level. The appropriation for the current biennium provides for a match of .85 cents for every dollar levied locally up to one mill. SB 2143 seeks to restore the Senior Mill Levy program to the original dollar for dollar match.

SB 2143 is necessary to address the significant increase in the demand for services for ND citizens age 85 and older and the growing recognition for the need for more in-home services. Increasing funding for this continuum of care results in more efficient use of taxpayer dollars for the delivery of this needed care for our seniors.

Other Points:

- This is the same bill that has been introduced and passed by the Senate in 2011 and 2013. In 2011, final legislative outcome from conference committees resulted in increases the match from .66 to .75. 2013 from .75 to .85.

**Testimony
Senate Bill 2143
Senate Finance & Taxation Committee
January 19, 2015**

Chairman Cook and members of the committee, my name is Brian Arett. I am the Executive Director of Valley Senior Services and a representative of the 19 agencies that are members of the North Dakota Senior Service Providers (NDSSP) that provide Older American Act Services to the senior population of this state. I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 2143.

The Senior Mill Levy Match was established by the North Dakota Legislature in 1971 to provide funding for services for senior citizens. The 1991 Legislative Assembly amended the Senior Mill Levy Match program restricting the types of expenses that mill levy funds can be spent on to services designed to assist senior citizens in maintaining their independence. These services include home delivered meals, congregate dining, transportation, outreach assistance, health related services and the maintenance of senior citizens centers where services are provided.

The original appropriation for the Senior Mill Levy Match program was sufficient to provide dollar for dollar match of what was being generated at the county or city level. The appropriation for the current biennium provides for a match of .85 cents for every dollar levied locally up to one mill.

SB 2143 restores the Senior Mill Levy Match program to the original dollar for dollar match of what is levied at the local level up to one mill. This increase in funding will make available resources for service providers to meet the growing needs of an

increasingly aging population. For instance, in our region the number of meals served through the Meals on Wheels program has grown by 14.5% in the last two years and the need for transportation services is up by 21.7% in this same time period.

Also, these additional funds will allow these services to be provided in an in-home setting expanding the continuum of care for the senior population. Ninety-two percent of home delivered meals clients report that meals allow them to remain in their homes.

These preventive services are crucial for saving valuable health and long-term care dollars. The more successful we are at providing nutritious food to older adults in their homes, where they prefer to be, the less money we will spend overall. In 2013, 228 of the 5,215 home delivered meals clients in North Dakota scored as nursing home and Medicaid eligible. The average cost of a year of North Dakota nursing home care is \$78,044. Consider the tremendous savings by keeping these seniors at home where they want to be.

In addition, this increase will provide additional funding in support of the many senior centers throughout the state to make sure that they are able to be adequately maintained so that they are available for the provision of services for the elderly. For example, the senior center in Hillsboro (Traill County) is in need of major renovations as its meal count has gone from 50 meals/day to more than 90 because it has taken on meal preparation responsibilities for senior centers in Traill and Steele counties. These renovations will include an addition to the building and additional commercial cooking equipment and are estimated to cost over \$150,000. Total mill levy for Traill County in 2014 was \$60,000.

The Fairmount Senior Center (Richland County) is in need of extensive repairs due to the age of the building including a new roof, flooring, counters and cabinets. The estimated cost for these repairs is about \$50,000. Richland County received a total of \$135,078 in mill levy funds in 2014. These funds were spent maintaining six senior centers and helping to provide meals, transportation and outreach services throughout the county.

I could list several more similar examples for senior centers in each of the six counties we manage or throughout the state. The bottom line is these facilities serve as a major focal point for seniors in their respective communities. They are a place where seniors congregate and where services are provided that assist them in maintaining an active and independent lifestyle. In many towns the senior center is one of the last few active facilities in town.

Our request is based on the growing demand for services for people age 85 and older and the increasing recognition of the need for more in-home services. We feel that increasing funding for the continuum of care results in better government at less cost to the taxpayer. It also promotes independence in the rural communities of our state. Finally, it results in economic development from the employment we are able to provide throughout the state and through contracts we have with small restaurants in the most rural parts of our state.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify before your committee today and would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Testimony to the
Senate Tax & Finance

January 19, 2015

By the North Dakota Association of Counties

RE: Senate Bill 2143 – Senior Mill Levy

Senator Cook and committee members, the North Dakota Association of Counties supports this bill and would like to offer an amendment, which we have handed to you. The amendment is very simple but it addresses a concern raised during the meeting of the Governor's Property Tax Reform Task Force. The Governor asked the Association of Counties to work on a fix outside of his reform proposal. What our proposal does is decouple the need to levy taxes for funding the senior citizens. Therefore, Counties can use other funds other than property tax dollars to meet the match requirement.

In our County member's eyes, this is good property tax stewardship and could mean a property tax savings in some counties.

For those reasons, we hope you consider the proposed amendment and stand for any questions.

Proposed Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2143

Page 1, line 20, overstrike "levied" and insert immediately thereafter "appropriated"

Page 1, line 21, after the first "to" insert "an amount equal to"

Renumber accordingly

The final sentence of Section 1 of the bill would then read as follows:

.....A matching fund grant must be provided from the senior citizen services and programs fund to each eligible county equal to ~~eighty-five~~ one hundred percent of the amount ~~levied~~ appropriated in dollars in the county under this section for the taxable year, but the matching fund grant applies only to an amount equal to a levy of up to one mill under this section.

#4

1/19/15

**TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE FINANCE & TAXATION COMMITTEE
Prepared by Kevin J. Glatt, Burleigh County Auditor/Treasurer**

Senate Bill 2143

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am here today in support of SB2143 to increase the Senior Mill Match to support senior citizens services and programs.

Mr. Chairman and committee members I also do support the proposed amendment to change the requirement for a levy to an appropriation.

Requiring a levy vs. an appropriation is a disincentive to reduce property taxes as cities and counties may feel compelled to levy a tax in order to receive the state matching funds. Changing from a levy to an appropriation will allow other sources of funding to be used to fund the programs and not jeopardize the state match.

Thank You.

SB 2143

Senior Mill Levy Match

March 4, 2015

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Senator Oehlke

SB 2143
3-4-15
#1

The Senior Mill Levy Match was established by the ND Legislature in 1971 to provide funding for services for senior citizens. The 1991 Legislative Assembly amended the program and directed the types of expenses for which mill levy funds could be spent to services designed to assist seniors in maintaining their independence. These services include home delivered meals, congregate dining, transportation, outreach assistance, and health related services.

The original appropriation for the Senior Mill Levy Match program was sufficient to provide dollar-for-dollar match of what was being generated at the county or city level. The appropriation for the current biennium provides for a match of .85 cents for every dollar levied locally up to one mill. SB 2143 seeks to restore the Senior Mill Levy program to the original dollar for dollar match.

Additionally, the Senate amended SB 2143 on lines 20 and 21 of page one, replacing the reference to "levied" with "appropriated," to provide flexibility to counties that may wish to replace their levy with an appropriated amount equal to up to one mill.

SB 2143 is necessary to address the significant increase in the demand for services for ND citizens age 85 and older and the growing recognition for the need for more in-home services. Increasing funding for this continuum of care results in more efficient use of taxpayer dollars for the delivery of this needed care for our seniors.

Other Points:

- This is the same bill that has been introduced and passed by the Senate and House in 2011 and 2013. In 2011, final legislative outcome from conference committees resulted in increases for the match from .66 to .75. 2013 from .75 to .85.

SB 2143
3-4-15
#2 p. 1

**Testimony
Senate Bill 2143
House Finance and Taxation Committee
March 4, 2015**

Chairman Headland and members of the committee, my name is Pat Hansen. I am the Executive Director of South Central Adult Services out of Valley City that provides services in seven counties. I am also a member of the North Dakota Senior Service Providers, an association of agencies that provide Older American Act Services to the senior population of this state. I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 2143.

The Senior Mill Levy Match was established by the North Dakota Legislature in 1971 to provide funding for services for senior citizens. The 1991 Legislative Assembly amended the Senior Mill Levy Match program restricting the types of expenses that mill levy funds can be spent on to services designed to assist senior citizens in maintaining their independence. These services include home delivered meals, congregate dining, transportation, outreach assistance, health related services and the maintenance of senior citizens centers where services are provided.

The original appropriation for the Senior Mill Levy Match program was sufficient to provide dollar for dollar match of what was being generated at the county or city level. The appropriation for the current biennium provides for a match of .85 cents for every dollar levied locally up to one mill.

SB 2143 restores the Senior Mill Levy Match program to the original dollar for dollar match of what is levied at the local level up to one mill. This increase in funding will make available resources for service providers to meet the growing needs of an increasingly aging population. In Region VI, in addition to congregate and home delivered meals and transportation we are funding 100% of our outreach costs with mill

levy and matching funds. In some of my seven counties, after mill levy funds are used to support services provided there is no money left to assist the senior centers with their operating expenses. In many of my most rural sites, we rely on the senior centers being there as the place where services are provided.

These additional funds will allow services to be provided in an in-home setting expanding the continuum of care for the senior population to allow people to remain in their homes. There are a number of studies that support this conclusion:

- In 2011 The U.S. Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions: Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging, conducted a study that determined that "The more successful we are at providing nutritious food to older adults in their own homes, where they want to be, the less money we will spend overall."
- An analysis by the Administration on Aging confirms that Older Americans Act Title III services play an important role in helping elderly adults remain living independently in the community. (Altschuler & Schimmel, 2010)
- Ninety-two percent of home delivered meals clients report that meals allow them to remain in their homes. (Meals on Wheels Association of America, 2014)

These preventive services are crucial for saving valuable health and long-term care dollars. In 2013, 228 of the 5,215 home delivered meals clients in North Dakota scored as nursing home and Medicaid eligible. The average cost of a year of North Dakota nursing home care is \$78,044. Consider the tremendous savings by keeping these seniors at home where they want to be. In 2013 the Meals on Wheels Association of America calculated that one year of Meals on Wheels service costs the same as six days in a nursing home or one day in a hospital.

In addition, this increase will provide additional funding in support of the many senior centers throughout the state to make sure that they are able to be adequately maintained and available to provide services for the elderly. Many of the senior centers that exist across the state were originally opened thirty or even forty years ago and are in need of extensive repairs including new windows, flooring, cabinetry, heating and air conditioning equipment, meal preparation equipment and roofs.

I could list specific examples of renovations needed by senior centers throughout the state, but, the bottom line is these facilities are in need of repair to help them to continue to serve as a major focal point for seniors in their respective communities. They are a place where seniors congregate and where services are provided that assist them in maintaining an active and independent lifestyle. In many towns the senior center is one of the last few active facilities in town.

Our request is based on the growing demand for services for people age 85 and older and the increasing recognition of the need for more in-home services. We feel that increasing funding for the continuum of care results in better government at less cost to the taxpayer. It also promotes independence in the rural communities of our state. Finally, it results in economic development from the employment we are able to provide throughout the state and through contracts we have with small restaurants in the most rural parts of our state.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify before your committee today and would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

SB 2143
3-4-15
#3

Testimony to the
House Finance & Taxation Committee
March 4th, 2015
By the North Dakota Association of Counties

RE: Engrossed Senate Bill 2143 – Senior Mill Levy

Representative Headland and committee members, I'm Donnell Preskey with the North Dakota Association of Counties. NDACo supports this bill. First of all, we would like to commend the legislature for supporting the Senior Citizen services by raising the state match to 100%, up to an amount equal to one mill. County Commissioners recognize the importance of these valuable programs in their counties and the need for the joint state and county funding support.

This bill was amended at our Association's request to address a concern raised during the Governor's Property Tax Reform Task Force. The Governor asked the Association of Counties to work on a possible fix outside of his reform proposal. Our requested change is on page 1 line 20 where the amount *appropriated* replaces the amount *levied*. This decouples the need to levy taxes for funding the senior citizens. It makes it clear that counties can use funds other than property tax dollars to meet the match requirement. In the discussions of the Property Tax Reform Task Force this reduces the apparent state incentive to raise property taxes when that is not necessary. We believe this is good property tax stewardship.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, we urge a Do Pass recommendation on Engrossed Senate Bill 2143.

SB 2143
3-4-15
#4



North Dakota

Senate Bill 2143 - SUPPORT
March 4, 2015
House Finance and Taxation Committee
Josh Askvig - AARP North Dakota
jaskvig@aarp.org or 701-989-0129

Chairman Headland and members of the House Finance and Taxation Committee, I am Josh Askvig, Associate State Director of Advocacy for AARP North Dakota. We rise in support of SB 2143.

In North Dakota, one-third of the total population was born between 1946 and 1964. They are also known as the “baby boomer generation,” and most have entered retirement or will soon be doing so. In North Dakota and the nation as a whole, people are aging and aging rapidly. Such a dramatic shift will increase the number of people over 60 years old. It’s a fact that those over the age of 85 are the most likely to need the support of family, friends, and the community to remain living independently as they age. As of the 2010 census, there were 133,350 North Dakotans who were between the ages of 60 and 84. In 2020, that number is expected to rise to over 170,000—a 28% increase. They will need the resources and support of senior citizen services and programs in order to live independently as they grow older.

SB 2143 supports this effort to ensure that local providers see their efforts fully valued and the work they do to save the state costs in Medicaid and other social safety net services. For example, in 2013, North Dakota Senior Service Providers (NDSSP) received basic unit rate funding for only 80% of the meals provided. By providing meals to seniors, they are able to live healthier and remain in their homes, which saves the state Medicaid dollars in the long run because they are not living in costly nursing homes.

We strongly support SB 2143 and urge this committee to give it a DO PASS recommendation.

15.0456.02002
Title.

SB 2143
3-10-15 #1
Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Representative Headland
March 9, 2015

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2143

Page 1, line 19, remove the overstrike over "~~eighty-five~~"

Page 1, line 19, remove "one hundred"

Page 2, line 5, remove the overstrike over "~~eighty-five~~"

Page 2, line 5, remove "one hundred"

Renumber accordingly

**Senior Mill Levy Payments To Counties
2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 & 2015 Actual**

1,
SB2143
4-14-15

Match %: 0.66667 0.66667 0.66667 0.66667 0.66667 0.66667 0.75 0.75 0.85 0.85

County	Paid 2006	Paid 2007	Paid 2008	Paid 2009	Paid 2010	Paid 2011	Paid 2012	Paid 2013	Paid 2014	Paid 2015
Adams	4,596.91	4,726.90	5,004.90	5,130.18	5,193.16	5,229.40	6,030.52	6,335.48	8,423.29	9,328.04
Barnes	21,828.56	23,404.30	24,966.44	25,899.58	27,089.75	32,378.92	40,204.52	42,292.95	52,526.93	55,454.61
Benson	8,242.23	8,590.75	9,196.14	9,389.91	9,563.88	10,369.63	12,890.75	14,023.64	19,427.54	22,124.05
Billings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bottineau	15,944.37	17,011.48	17,316.33	17,564.67	19,152.74	22,768.57	27,509.21	29,033.69	40,436.51	41,806.94
Bowman	0.00	6,443.43	6,656.65	8,105.75	8,788.64	9,766.72	11,979.08	14,934.04	19,799.70	21,138.70
Burke	5,736.71	5,747.64	5,783.25	5,877.15	5,957.00	6,273.68	8,101.66	9,089.32	14,218.58	17,247.43
Burlingame	103,794.62	114,099.23	129,925.39	146,229.91	162,751.42	172,684.94	200,929.83	209,920.96	255,337.14	290,237.29
Cass	216,762.92	238,517.28	263,848.90	285,608.85	297,987.55	309,575.55	360,774.35	372,544.64	442,880.35	466,605.08
Cavalier	12,881.83	13,460.05	14,233.89	14,500.33	16,782.96	18,410.58	22,500.57	22,549.72	30,382.46	32,792.18
Dickey	10,277.69	10,900.12	11,642.14	12,070.08	12,983.42	14,717.12	17,257.52	17,737.31	22,672.86	27,330.50
Divide	5,963.13	6,105.70	0.00	6,455.01	6,544.85	6,848.69	9,135.20	10,181.24	16,579.39	16,933.53
Dunn	8,504.18	8,481.61	8,584.40	8,442.53	8,856.76	2,170.74	11,159.22	13,664.94	7,566.61	30,455.38
Eddy	4,228.88	4,204.10	4,320.82	4,402.58	4,433.05	4,660.40	5,607.97	6,130.51	8,706.72	9,150.39
Emmons	4,518.04	4,550.56	4,767.90	4,866.35	4,868.68	4,895.22	5,974.46	6,426.23	10,238.84	19,315.21
Foster	8,139.75	8,336.32	8,581.78	8,699.70	8,881.01	9,353.31	11,124.92	11,656.70	14,318.63	16,289.92
Golden Valley	3,654.00	3,670.13	3,731.40	3,900.16	4,003.94	4,093.47	5,132.94	5,376.10	7,373.71	8,159.66
Grand Forks	88,996.77	98,615.94	107,837.38	113,468.61	120,112.45	124,476.19	145,110.97	150,267.88	180,258.20	191,611.26
Grant	5,134.41	5,310.42	5,947.67	6,102.65	5,917.56	6,175.63	7,487.78	8,250.85	11,516.47	12,789.51
Griggs	5,569.97	5,841.90	6,253.29	6,375.18	6,400.23	6,683.78	8,959.59	9,545.94	12,767.03	13,812.05
Hettinger	5,910.49	6,175.96	6,541.92	6,678.95	6,728.76	6,868.67	8,092.96	10,899.54	15,824.50	17,387.17
Kidder	6,223.59	6,329.93	6,815.37	7,100.84	7,166.47	7,803.56	9,227.26	9,523.94	11,612.96	12,411.81
LaMoure	10,948.85	11,710.69	12,438.07	12,588.90	12,567.07	13,347.97	16,333.09	17,071.90	23,153.80	26,685.16
Logan	4,278.53	4,324.54	4,746.72	4,954.10	5,025.74	5,288.61	6,441.05	6,885.62	9,358.67	9,926.42
McHenry	13,687.46	14,288.22	15,218.00	15,083.96	15,233.49	15,716.47	19,699.91	20,258.79	26,544.32	28,319.50
McIntosh	6,348.08	6,470.27	6,788.30	6,955.19	7,002.54	7,189.88	8,684.02	9,515.03	11,703.23	13,368.08
McKenzie	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
McLean	16,535.70	17,635.79	19,049.47	19,913.45	20,858.74	23,385.98	28,275.01	31,448.99	42,115.22	47,250.03
Mercer	4,285.02	4,410.10	12,596.80	12,994.93	13,531.88	14,050.57	16,660.15	18,701.86	23,575.09	26,736.98
Morton	36,546.14	38,863.27	41,003.47	44,520.40	47,853.19	50,353.84	59,658.39	63,283.79	77,545.74	84,992.78
Mountrail	9,793.28	10,073.38	10,872.53	11,048.13	11,474.89	13,749.72	26,906.14	33,157.05	49,417.65	62,616.58
Neison	7,086.36	7,326.99	7,489.23	7,548.39	7,574.01	8,956.79	12,347.89	13,752.73	16,894.00	18,759.43
Oliver	2,726.95	3,635.29	2,766.15	3,989.65	4,452.08	5,589.58	6,363.02	6,456.59	8,515.27	9,225.09
Pembina	18,641.98	19,888.33	20,783.75	20,875.21	20,987.04	22,597.30	29,673.09	30,677.48	39,468.70	44,006.53
Pierce	8,976.42	9,052.09	9,670.58	9,550.18	9,545.72	9,824.63	13,245.70	13,460.87	18,842.47	21,580.55
Ramsey	16,187.55	16,991.81	17,710.66	18,594.05	19,307.77	20,351.21	24,214.68	25,199.27	32,390.86	38,219.97
Ransom	10,235.67	10,890.80	11,318.25	11,614.63	11,912.75	13,320.12	16,541.96	18,000.89	22,653.73	25,149.73
Renville	6,571.38	6,668.88	6,913.26	6,933.20	6,948.18	7,348.29	9,759.86	10,813.40	15,611.72	17,037.18
Richland	31,757.44	32,736.62	34,289.05	35,614.94	36,302.97	37,268.97	42,906.93	44,734.13	55,995.63	59,665.26
Rolette	6,405.84	6,493.85	6,805.72	6,741.04	6,864.11	7,025.56	8,557.50	9,097.45	12,571.77	13,584.35
Sargent	9,229.03	10,029.68	10,610.48	10,801.53	10,913.17	11,983.65	15,111.21	16,110.51	21,844.33	23,029.03
Sheridan	4,047.49	4,155.41	4,388.32	4,478.32	4,488.36	4,626.09	5,601.00	6,046.31	8,173.81	9,324.41
Sioux	1,373.45	1,367.24	1,371.02	1,431.00	1,454.04	1,556.11	1,879.76	1,922.30	2,712.24	2,943.66
Slope	2,874.87	2,865.89	3,181.07	2,752.52	3,589.78	3,912.79	4,414.20	5,883.11	8,112.16	8,766.15
Stark	25,156.79	26,836.04	29,709.11	32,509.12	38,070.42	41,534.89	50,032.95	56,697.32	78,816.61	114,562.21
Steele	6,717.55	7,041.63	7,377.83	7,555.13	7,937.81	8,695.83	14,496.39	16,126.62	21,561.52	22,729.02
Stutsman	32,214.27	33,926.44	35,804.39	36,670.34	38,059.54	40,257.57	47,496.76	50,057.27	61,791.78	68,298.18
Towner	7,635.84	7,625.69	7,738.83	7,891.33	7,741.37	8,434.02	10,691.17	11,315.84	16,542.88	18,234.40
Trail	16,374.60	17,181.49	17,961.39	18,416.97	18,907.36	19,909.00	24,122.69	24,330.90	31,914.04	34,154.20
Walsh	20,394.46	20,840.37	21,757.71	22,117.17	22,269.31	23,371.55	28,915.91	30,070.16	36,411.71	40,100.91
Ward	70,074.08	76,795.37	80,785.45	81,658.80	90,246.90	105,784.15	135,205.85	142,204.57	191,410.91	241,518.07
Wells	11,205.81	11,701.09	12,566.63	12,846.92	12,802.41	13,236.32	16,158.00	17,153.81	23,449.08	25,728.54
Williams	24,195.07	25,342.94	27,624.32	30,416.67	34,376.01	38,538.91	51,512.29	58,542.92	98,976.06	163,811.69
Total	989,414.81	1,087,693.96	1,163,292.62	1,225,933.14	1,298,461.93	1,384,391.14	1,667,097.86	1,789,363.10	2,290,963.42	2,650,724.80

1 Billion

Divide County chose not to levy in 2007; They were back in 2008

- 09 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2008 up 4 from 2007
- 10 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2009
- 12 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2010
- 13 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2011
- 15 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2012
- 13 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2013; 3 Counties levied zero or less than one mills
- 14 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2014; 3 Counties levied zero or less than one mills
- 11 counties levied the Maximum 2 mills in 2015; 4 Counties levied zero or less than one mills

Cass
2013 = 466,600
2010 = 298,000
57%

Walsh 2010
2.569 million

22,269 5 yrs

more than double in last 5 yrs

AF 4.58M 5.301 mill
1/2 million
2015 vs 2014

NORTH DAKOTA'S AGING POPULATION: PROFILE AND TRENDS OF SENIORS AGES 65 AND OLDER

1.
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STATEWIDE, THE NUMBER OF NORTH DAKOTA RESIDENTS AGES 65 AND OLDER IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE 50 PERCENT, FROM 98,595 IN 2011 TO 148,060 IN 2025^{2,3}.



OVERVIEW: This aging population brief presents a picture of the health, finances and well-being of adults ages 65 and older in North Dakota. The brief focuses on well-being indicators¹ including population, health care, economics, health risks and behaviors, and health status, as well as cognitive impairment and caregiving.

POPULATION

Until the latter part of the 2000s, the “graying of North Dakota” seemed relatively certain; decades of population loss or mixed growth in most counties², the aging of the baby boomers (born 1946 through 1964) and improvements in life expectancy led to predictions of increasingly high proportions of elderly in counties throughout the state.

More recently, however, energy development in western North Dakota has contributed to population growth in some areas of the state and demographic shifts across the state. Although proportions are not expected to reach as high of levels as previously projected, the senior population has been growing in the state and will continue to do so.

The leading edge of the baby boom began to turn 65 in 2011. That year, 14.4 percent of North Dakota’s population was ages 65 and older (98,595 people), the 12th highest proportion in the nation³. In 16 of the state’s 53 counties, the proportion was at least 23 percent³. **Figure 1** offers a national comparison using 2010 data⁴. By 2025, 26 counties are expected to have at least 23 percent seniors².

Statewide, the number of seniors is expected to increase 50 percent (from 98,595 in 2011 to 148,060 in 2025), with the overall state proportion rising to 17.6 percent^{2,3}. In western North Dakota, McKenzie, Williams and Divide counties are expected to more than double their numbers of seniors from 2011 to 2025 (see **Figure 2**)^{2,3}.

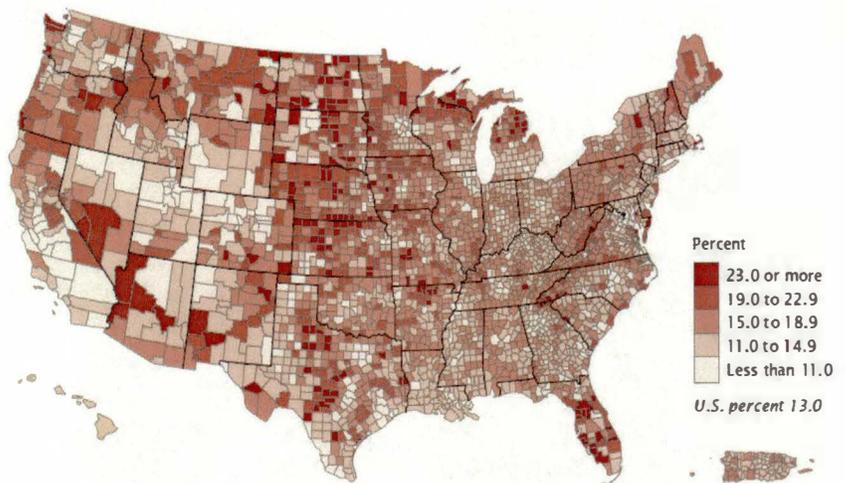
In 2011, North Dakota had the second highest proportion of older seniors ages 85 and older in the nation at 2.5 percent³. The number of these older seniors more than doubled from 1980 to 2011 (from 8,140 to 17,216 residents), but it is expected to stay fairly stable during the next 14 years^{2,3,5}.

In 2010, North Dakota had 221 residents age 100 and older (more than double the 103 residents in 1980); 90 percent of these centenarians were women (up from 69 percent in 1980)⁵.

The vast majority of North Dakota residents ages 65 and older live in households (93 percent); one in four of all households has at least one senior (24 percent)⁶. Of the more than 61,000 heads of households (householders) who are seniors, half live alone (second highest proportion in the nation); nationally, 44 percent live alone⁶. Proportions living alone range from a high of 62 percent in Nelson County to a low of 30 percent in Slope County (see **Table 1**)⁶. Among householders living alone, 72 percent are female⁶.



FIGURE 1. PERCENT AGES 65 AND OLDER BY COUNTY: 2010⁴



Prepared by the Center for Social Research at NDSU for NDSU Extension Service. NDSU is an EO/AA institution. For more information, contact Jane Strommen at (701) 231-5948 or JaneStrommen@ndsu.edu. For more information on this and other topics, see www.ag.ndsu.edu. NDSU encourages you to use and share this content, but please do so under the conditions of our Creative Commons license. You may copy, distribute, transmit and adapt this work as long as you give full attribution, don't use the work for commercial purposes and share your resulting work similarly. For more information, visit www.ag.ndsu.edu/agcomm/creative-commons. County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, public assistance status, sex, sexual orientation, status as a U.S. veteran, race or religion. Direct inquiries to the Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach, 205 Old Main, (701) 231-7708. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, (701) 231-7881.

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POPULATION CONTINUED

More than half of North Dakota seniors are married (57 percent), 31 percent are widowed, 7 percent are divorced and 5 percent never married⁶. Approximately 1 percent of seniors live with grandchildren; about one in four of these seniors is responsible for the care of his or her grandchildren⁶.

Among seniors in 2010, the state had 77 men for every 100 women⁵. Most North Dakota residents ages 65 and older are non-Hispanic white (97 percent compared with 89 percent of all North Dakotans)⁶. Twice the proportion of North Dakota seniors are veterans compared with the overall population (22 percent compared with 11 percent)⁶. Educational attainment among seniors is less than that of the overall state population: 27 percent have less than a high school diploma, compared with 10 percent overall, and 14 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 27 percent⁶.

Most seniors have not moved in the previous year (93 percent compared with 83 percent of all North Dakotans)⁶. Less than three-fourths of senior households are owner-occupied (73 percent, which is the fourth lowest proportion in the nation); nationally, 79 percent are owner-occupied⁶. Rates of owner-occupied senior households range from a low of 62 percent in Ransom County to a high of 90 percent in Dunn County⁶.

HEALTH CARE

In the United States, most seniors are eligible for Medicare, which is a federal health insurance program that helps with but does not cover all medical costs⁷. In North Dakota, 97 percent of seniors have some kind of health-care coverage⁸. Access to health-care services is an issue in North Dakota: 35 percent of all North Dakotans live in a primary health-care professional shortage area⁹.

About 6 percent of North Dakota seniors live in skilled nursing facilities (5,833 seniors in 2010)⁵. The majority of these residents are ages 85 and older⁵. Approximately 10 percent of North Dakota residents ages 65 and older had at least one nursing home stay in 2009, and 30 percent of residents ages 85 and older had at least one stay¹⁰. Two-thirds of nursing home residents are female¹⁰.

ECONOMICS

Many North Dakota senior householders experience cost-burdened housing (monthly housing costs of at least 30 percent of their household income) (see Table 1)⁶. Among North Dakota households owned by seniors, 21 percent are cost-burdened; nationally, 29 percent are cost-burdened⁶. Rates range from 30 percent in McIntosh County to 7 percent in Billings County⁶. Among senior households renting, 47 percent are cost-burdened; nationally, 54 percent are cost-burdened⁶. Rates are as high as 80 percent in Pierce County⁶.

According to results of a 2012 statewide housing survey of key leaders and stakeholders, those surveyed are moderately in agreement that escalating housing costs are forcing elderly and low-income families to move; respondents in oil-impacted areas of western North Dakota strongly agreed that this is a problem². Respondents indicated that elderly needing skilled-care facilities are getting their needs met moderately well and better than elderly wanting to age in place at home².

The poverty rate among North Dakota seniors for whom poverty has been determined (for example, seniors living in group quarters are excluded) is 12 percent, which is the same as the overall state poverty rate. Eleven counties have at least 20 percent of their seniors living in poverty (see Table 1)⁶.

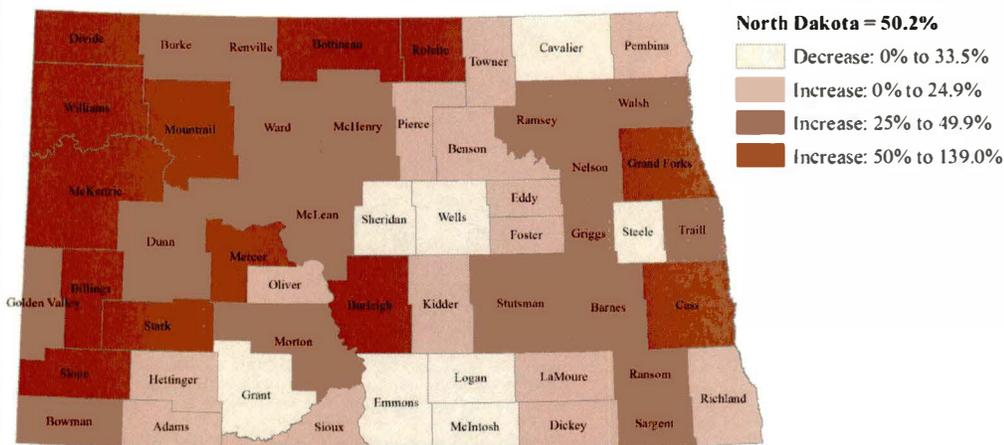
The North Dakota retirement ratio (people ages 65 and older as a proportion of those 20 to 64) was 24 percent in 2010 (ninth highest ratio in the nation); nationally, the ratio was 22 percent⁵. The ratio ranged from 14 percent in Sioux County to 73 percent in McIntosh County (see Table 1)⁵. One in three seniors ages 65 to 74 and one in four seniors ages 75 and older did volunteer work in the previous year¹¹.

Nearly one in five seniors is in the labor force (19 percent)⁶. Senior households receive income from a variety of sources⁶:

- Social Security - 94 percent (mean = \$15,714)
- Earnings - 36 percent (mean = \$33,219)
- Retirement income - 31 percent (mean = \$17,236)
- Supplemental Security - 3 percent (mean = \$8,030)
- Cash public assistance - 1 percent (mean = \$3,005)

In addition, 6 percent received Food Stamp/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits⁶.

FIGURE 2. PROJECTED PERCENT CHANGE IN NORTH DAKOTA RESIDENTS AGES 65 AND OLDER BY COUNTY: 2011 TO 2025^{2,3}



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HEALTH RISKS, BEHAVIORS AND STATUS

Health risk factors among North Dakota seniors include low physical activity (89 percent), high rates of being overweight (42 percent) and obese (24 percent), high blood pressure (57 percent), not getting a flu shot (42 percent) or a pneumonia vaccine (30 percent), being limited in activities (31 percent), low levels of education (27 percent), and poverty (12 percent) (see Figure 3)⁸.

Half of North Dakota residents ages 65 and older have arthritis, nearly one in three has vision impairment (31 percent) and one in five has diabetes (19 percent)⁸. Nearly one in three seniors reports being limited in activities because of physical, mental or emotional problems (31 percent); 16 percent require the use of special equipment⁸.

More than one-third of noninstitutionalized seniors report having a disability (35 percent)¹². Difficulties include ambulatory (20 percent), hearing (16 percent), independent living (13 percent), vision (7 percent), cognitive (6 percent) and self-care (5 percent)¹².

Among calls North Dakota seniors make for emergency medical services, the vast majority are for falls (2,779 calls in 2008, which is 87 percent of all calls by seniors)¹³. In 2011, 68 deaths were attributed to falls among North Dakota seniors ages 70 and older¹³.

COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

Among North Dakota nursing home residents in 2009, nearly half (47 percent) had severe or moderate cognitive impairment, and an additional 31 percent had mild or very mild impairment¹⁰. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form. In 2010, about 18,000 North Dakota residents ages 65 and older were living with Alzheimer's disease: 700 ages 65 to 74, 7,700 ages 75 to 84, and 9,800 ages 85 and older¹⁴. Nationally, an estimated one in nine people ages 65 and older and one in three people ages 85 and older have the disease¹⁴. Alzheimer's disease is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States among seniors and continues to increase as a cause of death, while causes such as stroke and heart disease are decreasing in prevalence¹⁴.

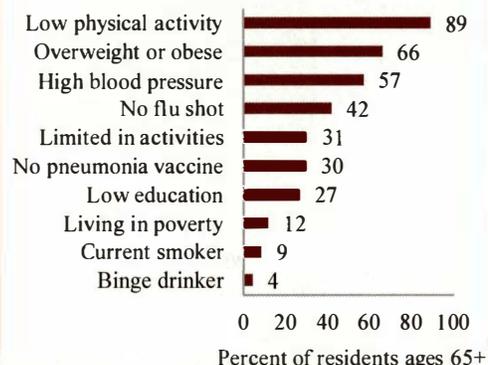
CAREGIVING

Nationally, about one in seven people with Alzheimer's and other dementias lives alone; many do not have someone providing care to them, putting them at higher risk of issues such as malnutrition, inadequate self-care and accidental death¹⁵. In North Dakota, an estimated 28,000 informal caregivers provided 32 million hours of unpaid dementia care in 2012, with a value of \$400 million¹⁴.

Research shows that, nationally, two-thirds of seniors with long-term care needs rely exclusively on informal caregiving by friends and family; half of seniors in need of long-term care who do not have a family caregiver are in nursing homes, compared with 7 percent who have a family caregiver¹⁶. Informal care includes hands-on health provision, care management, companionship, decision making and advocacy¹⁶. The majority of informal care is provided by women; the average caregiver is in her mid-40s, married and working outside the home¹⁶. In addition to the expenses of caregiving, caregiving responsibilities can lead to financial hardship through lost wages from reduced work hours, passing on a promotion, taking a leave of absence, time out of the workforce and early retirement, which all can impact retirement income down the road¹⁶.

In federal fiscal year 2012, 515 new cases of vulnerable adults in North Dakota who had been subjected to (or were at risk of) abuse or neglect were reported; of those, 77 percent were adults ages 60 and older¹⁷. More than half of all cases (60 percent) were determined to be self-neglect; the remaining cases were neglect, abuse or financial exploitation (by a child in 43 percent of cases, a spouse in 16 percent of cases and some other person in 39 percent of cases)¹⁷. More than one-third of new cases involved adults with Alzheimer's disease or dementia¹⁷.

Figure 3. Health Risk Factors Among North Dakota Seniors, 2011^{6,8}



Notes: low physical activity = not participating in enough aerobic and muscle-strengthening exercise to meet guidelines; low education = less than a high school diploma; current smoker = every day or occasionally

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TABLE 1. CHARACTERISTICS OF NORTH DAKOTA RESIDENTS AGES 65 AND OLDER BY COUNTY

Location	Total Population 2011 ³	Retirement Ratio* 2010 ⁵	Population Ages 65+				Householders Ages 65+			
			Number 2011 ³	% of Total Population 2011	Projected Number 2025 ²	% Change in Number 2011 to 2025	% in Poverty [#] 2007-2011 ⁶	% Living Alone 2007-2011 ⁶	Cost-Burdened [^] 2007-2011 ⁶	
									% Owner-Occupied	% Renter-Occupied
North Dakota	683,932	24.2%	98,595	14.4%	148,060	50.2%	12.2%	49.5%	21.1%	46.8%
Adams	2,307	44.2%	569	24.7%	673	18.3%	10.1%	52.9%	9.7%	26.8%
Barnes	11,056	34.6%	2,146	19.4%	2,911	35.6%	14.3%	53.3%	21.5%	41.9%
Benson	6,723	25.3%	850	12.6%	869	2.2%	20.1%	38.7%	20.1%	35.3%
Billings	816	31.5%	126	15.4%	250	98.4%	3.4%	40.0%	6.5%	0.0%
Bottineau	6,443	38.3%	1,359	21.1%	2,259	66.2%	12.8%	54.1%	18.2%	51.3%
Bowman	3,134	40.0%	657	21.0%	968	47.3%	17.5%	55.2%	19.9%	38.3%
Burke	2,033	36.8%	399	19.6%	580	45.4%	7.4%	56.2%	16.2%	26.4%
Burleigh	83,145	22.0%	11,356	13.7%	18,408	62.1%	9.4%	46.8%	19.5%	53.1%
Cass	152,368	15.0%	15,076	9.9%	28,291	87.7%	9.0%	52.9%	21.8%	54.3%
Cavalier	3,939	48.4%	1,011	25.7%	865	-14.4%	15.8%	42.9%	18.5%	42.7%
Dickey	5,317	42.4%	1,180	22.2%	1,461	23.8%	15.8%	55.7%	17.7%	64.9%
Divide	2,125	48.8%	551	25.9%	1,141	107.1%	6.8%	46.0%	17.5%	12.1%
Dunn	3,720	29.7%	616	16.6%	914	48.4%	10.0%	48.9%	13.9%	13.9%
Eddy	2,380	46.7%	581	24.4%	672	15.7%	21.3%	54.6%	19.3%	35.6%
Emmons	3,546	55.4%	979	27.6%	930	-5.0%	23.5%	48.9%	28.0%	27.6%
Foster	3,341	42.6%	743	22.2%	810	9.0%	14.2%	42.7%	23.2%	46.6%
Golden Valley	1,752	40.5%	358	20.4%	513	43.3%	10.2%	57.9%	12.7%	53.7%
Grand Forks	66,598	16.1%	7,047	10.6%	11,389	61.6%	10.7%	54.3%	28.6%	49.7%
Grant	2,337	50.7%	649	27.8%	647	-0.3%	19.9%	50.0%	28.9%	42.0%
Griggs	2,372	49.5%	646	27.2%	863	33.6%	20.2%	50.3%	21.6%	33.7%
Hettinger	2,515	48.3%	624	24.8%	760	21.8%	12.5%	49.6%	18.7%	4.4%
Kidder	2,414	37.8%	491	20.3%	588	19.8%	22.9%	44.5%	25.3%	43.3%
LaMoure	4,105	47.0%	1,004	24.5%	1,127	12.3%	18.1%	46.8%	19.3%	41.2%
Logan	1,985	56.4%	558	28.1%	371	-33.5%	17.7%	43.5%	27.0%	41.2%
McHenry	5,505	37.2%	1,137	20.7%	1,526	34.2%	15.6%	53.3%	24.7%	18.0%
McIntosh	2,769	73.1%	942	34.0%	916	-2.8%	20.7%	47.4%	29.8%	29.7%
McKenzie	7,019	24.9%	911	13.0%	2,177	139.0%	10.6%	45.4%	8.5%	20.8%
McLean	9,068	38.1%	1,994	22.0%	2,711	36.0%	11.9%	45.4%	18.6%	24.5%
Mercer	8,449	25.8%	1,345	15.9%	2,019	50.1%	13.2%	43.4%	21.6%	40.4%
Morton	27,734	24.6%	4,096	14.8%	5,879	43.5%	10.3%	45.6%	18.7%	40.5%
Mountrail	8,097	22.8%	1,037	12.8%	1,816	75.1%	11.7%	33.3%	23.5%	36.5%
Nelson	3,057	51.7%	826	27.0%	1,208	46.2%	13.4%	62.0%	21.3%	32.3%
Oliver	1,830	28.0%	298	16.3%	370	24.2%	20.0%	47.7%	19.6%	34.0%
Pembina	7,342	35.6%	1,473	20.1%	1,718	16.6%	11.2%	50.5%	17.6%	39.4%
Pierce	4,375	44.8%	1,013	23.2%	1,239	22.3%	17.8%	53.5%	28.1%	79.6%
Ramsey	11,452	31.8%	2,062	18.0%	2,908	41.0%	14.3%	52.7%	16.9%	39.6%
Ransom	5,403	36.2%	1,074	19.9%	1,347	25.4%	12.2%	47.3%	27.9%	43.5%
Renville	2,490	36.0%	488	19.6%	644	32.0%	5.8%	40.0%	11.9%	0.0%
Richland	16,245	25.6%	2,403	14.8%	2,889	20.2%	9.7%	50.6%	23.5%	44.2%
Rolette	14,206	18.8%	1,445	10.2%	2,480	71.6%	28.6%	40.0%	23.2%	30.6%
Sargent	3,798	33.7%	731	19.2%	1,068	46.1%	7.5%	45.8%	15.5%	39.1%
Sheridan	1,309	57.1%	400	30.6%	365	-8.8%	18.4%	38.2%	15.8%	50.0%
Sioux	4,280	13.5%	315	7.4%	388	23.2%	37.2%	45.0%	28.6%	7.4%
Slope	718	31.5%	136	18.9%	241	77.2%	15.6%	30.0%	11.3%	44.4%
Stark	25,177	27.0%	3,927	15.6%	6,105	55.5%	13.5%	49.3%	22.0%	49.9%
Steele	1,950	40.7%	427	21.9%	372	-12.9%	7.5%	42.0%	12.4%	31.3%
Stutsman	21,062	28.8%	3,630	17.2%	4,622	27.3%	12.4%	52.6%	25.0%	38.0%
Towner	2,264	45.1%	543	24.0%	552	1.7%	8.3%	58.5%	15.8%	47.1%
Trail	8,147	33.7%	1,545	19.0%	2,122	37.3%	12.1%	56.1%	20.8%	43.0%
Walsh	11,032	36.2%	2,247	20.4%	2,949	31.2%	12.2%	54.7%	17.2%	32.9%
Ward	64,072	21.6%	8,056	12.6%	10,661	32.3%	10.9%	45.2%	22.6%	59.3%
Wells	4,237	56.4%	1,179	27.8%	1,175	-0.3%	19.5%	52.2%	17.4%	35.6%
Williams	24,374	24.9%	3,339	13.7%	7,333	119.6%	9.8%	44.7%	14.4%	58.0%

* Retirement ratio = number of people ages 65 and older as a proportion of persons ages 20 to 64

Among persons for whom poverty has been determined (for example, persons living in group quarters are excluded); living in poverty = incomes below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, see <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/13poverty.cfm> for income limits

^ Cost-burdened = households with monthly housing costs that are at least 30 percent of the household's income

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Information for SB 2143 Conference Committee

April 14, 2015

1. Costs of Title III Services Statewide

2008 State Program Report(SPR)

2013 SPR - (Last Year Available)

Meals \$6.31 per meal cost

\$7.91

Note while the cost of the meals has increased \$1.60 per meal from 2008 - 2013, the contributions per meal that seniors give has only increased 12 cents per meal during this time frame from \$2.37 to \$2.49. We cannot charge a set fee per meal. "Suggested" meal contributions around the state range from \$3.50 per meal to \$4.25 per meal. NO agency receives an average donation per meal that is much as their suggested per meal contribution rate.

Health \$6.03 per unit

\$7.33 per unit

2. Average Food Cost Per Meal \$2.36 in 2010

\$2.76 in 2014

All Agencies listed below indicated they have had to raise wages to keep/hire staff

3. Some Wage Examples

in 2010

in 2014

Cook in Valley City

13.10

15.00 (25 years experience)

Cook in Carrington

10.48

12.01

Site Manager - Valley City

9.98

12.15

Site Manager - Carrington

7.83

8.98

Outreach - Foster County

11.58

13.29 (26 years experience)

Above staff have \$200 per person paid for a health insurance policy - rest of cost employee pays

Cooks in Bismarck

\$9.00-13.00

13.50 - 16.59

Site Managers-Bismarck

9.61 - 10.66

12.00 - 16.00

Nurses - Bismarck

17.59 - 18.46

28.00

Above positions have \$432 per person paid for a health insurance policy - rest of cost employee pays

Meal Service in Devils Lake

\$9.70

10.50

Coordinator - Devils Lake

8.89

9.62

Above staff have \$295 per person paid for a health insurance policy - rest of cost employee pays

Cook in Walsh County

\$ 9.50

12.00

Site Manager-Walsh County

10.75

12.50

Above staff receive NO paid Health Benefits

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Cook in Pembina County	\$ 8.50	11.50
Site Manager in Pembina Co.	\$9.00	11.00

Story about hiring this Site Manager in Sept 2014. Person was a food supervisor at local C-store making \$12.25 and agency job was only offering \$10.00 per hour. Agency raised wage to \$11.00 to get this employee who took a pay cut. Rest of agency staff then also needed to receive pay increases. For cooks, this agency has tried to match what school cooks are paid - but are not to that level yet.

Above staff receive NO paid Health Benefits

Nurses in Grand Forks	19.11	27.00
Outreach in Grand Forks	16.62	18.39

Story about hiring a Cook in Grand Forks in October 2014. The starting wage at that time was \$12.00 an hour. The only 2 applicants for the job both required \$13.50 to \$14.50 per hour to even consider job. A cook at a nursing home making \$18.00 per hour did take a \$3.50 per hour pay CUT per hour to take the job (no shift work). Rest of cooking staff then needed to have pay increases also.

Above staff receive 85% cost per person paid for a health insurance policy - rest of cost employee pays

Cook in West Fargo	\$11.25	13.50
Site Assistant-	8.25	10.25
Site Manager	9.00	12.75
Options Counselor (LSW)	13.50	16.00

State of North Dakota
Office of the State Treasurer
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 120
Bismarck, ND 58505-0600

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Senior Mill Levy (County Funds and State Match) - Dolars Spent in 2014

County	Column 1 Mill Levy Money Spent in 2014	Column 2 a. Spent on Senior Center Maintenance, Utilities, Insurance, etc.	Column 3 b. Spent on Services or Programs	Column 3a Of Amount spent in Column 3 - used for Meals	Column 3b Of Amount spent in Column 3 - used for Outreach	Column 3c Of Amount spent in Column 3 - used for Health	Column 3d Of Amount spent in Column 3 - used for Transit	Column 3e Of Amount spent in Column 3 - used for Other Services	Column 4 c. Spent on Other
Adams	25,200	-	25,200	16,200	-	5,000	4,000	-	-
Barnes	182,848	2,940	179,908	105,368	54,812		16,728	3,000	
Benson	42,194	12,020	23,716	12,064			11,152	500	6,458
Billings*									
Bottineau	96,607	42,242	54,366	50,107		1,752	147	2,360	
Bowman	76,139	20,739	55,400	30,900		10,000	12,500	2,000	
Burke	51,973	16,952	35,021	29,833	50	3,100	1,150	888	
Burleigh	538,013	343,069	170,519	70,372	200	12,217	5,700	82,030	24,425
Cass	944,935	38,326	906,609	641,366	89,670	3,615	166,272	5,685	
Cavalier	81,421	23,760	40,661	33,895	1,500	4,132	1,134		17,000
Dickey	60,852	20,090	40,762	34,679	6,083				
Divide	37,704		37,704	24,400				13,304	
Dunn	22,700		22,700	10,200		7,500	5,000		
Eddy	16,452	3,245	13,206	6,586				6,620	
Emmons	39,848	2,700	37,148	16,307		1,299	19,542		
Foster	23,949		23,949	8,233	15,716				
Golden Valley	42,698		42,698	12,000		4,750	25,948		
Grand Forks	424,087	34,593	389,494	98,985		13,427	3,524	273,558	
Grant	5,800		5,800				5,800		
Griggs	41,890	15,858	25,882	14,104	11,678		100		150
Hettinger	44,958	22,508	22,450	13,200			7,750	1,500	
Kidder	26,246	7,660	18,586	16,457			2,129		
LaMoure	55,755	6,408	49,347	17,037	29,415	2,895			
Logan	22,321		22,321	10,098	12,213			10	
McHenry	61,007	30,817	30,190	26,544	1,996		1,450	200	
McIntosh	43,295	7,815	35,480	20,365	15,115				
McKenzie*									
McLean	87,866	8,677	79,188	39,332	16,857		23,000		
Mercer	6,000		6,000				6,000		
Morton	256,305	53,796	189,509	104,856	48,579	12,074	24,000		13,000
Mountrail	115,193	30,100	82,390	37,890	4,500		40,000		2,702
Nelson	39,505		39,505	14,000		2,000	10,000	13,505	
Oliver	39,665	17,002	22,663	10,663			12,000		
Pembina	81,520	15,000	64,900	12,010	138	22,000	22,214	8,538	1,620
Pierce	49,657	16,616	33,042	33,042					
Ramsey	59,390	11,648	32,742	24,453		8,289			15,000
Ransom	32,000	12,000	20,000	17,877	1,304		819		
Renville	35,048	23,375	11,673	4,950		4,300		2,423	
Richland	148,686	91,060	56,000	37,381	2,769		15,850		1,626
Rolette	30,000	9,450	20,550	20,550					
Sargent	48,490	28,490	20,000	17,877	1,304		819		
Sheridan	19,307		15,340	12,076			3,264		3,967
Sioux	9,814	8,261	1,553	1,553					
Slope	28,010	9,210	18,800	7,300		4,000	5,500	2,000	
Stark	221,267		221,267	116,075		55,192	50,000		
Steele	14,599	13,776	823	588				235	
Stutsman	165,777	3,332	162,445	146,866		1,800	13,779		
Towner	105,782	19,628	68,092	7,839		8,030	52,223		18,063
Traill	33,345	32,000	1,345					1,345	
Walsh	61,286	32,517	28,769	4,080				24,689	
Ward	493,238	157,506	335,732	127,237	6,000	10,625	162,514	29,356	
Wells	68,449	600	67,849	61,469			6,380		
Williams	212,428	118,865	93,563	93,563					
TOTALS	\$ 5,471,521	\$ 1,364,652	\$ 4,002,859	\$ 2,272,828	\$ 319,898	\$ 197,997	\$ 738,388	\$ 473,747	\$ 104,011

NOTE: All amounts are pulled directly from Senior Citizens Mill Levy/Match Annual Reports submitted by the counties.

*Billings and McKenzie Counties do not levy Senior Mill Funds