

Re: Opposition to SB No. 2244

Dear Committee;

My name is Brent Olsen and I live in district 7. I am also the COO of Credit Collections Bureau, a North Dakota based collection agency with three office locations.

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 2244.

While I agree some County Sheriffs departments need a fee increase, I strongly disagree every county needs an increase of 150 percent for this service. Under SB 2244, the following is being proposed:

Service of process will increase from \$20.00 to \$50.00, for each person served.

For levying or executing at writ, the fee will increase from \$40.00 to \$80.00.

The commission for collecting any amount under the levy would increase from 1 percent to 3 percent.

Agencies like CCB play an important role in the North Dakota economy.

Every dollar we invest collecting accounts creates a positive impact for every business and consumer in the State of North Dakota.

Unpaid funds lost are directly passed to each consumer the following year. We collect 9 million dollars of revenue every year for industries such as healthcare, utility, financial, etc.

Based on a preliminary analysis within our agency, SB 2244 would increase our operational costs by over \$31,000 annually to process the same numbers.

Some of that cost cannot be recovered and we would have no choice but to reduce the total investment we make to recover funds for our clients.

The remaining amount of costs are assessed directly back to the consumer. There are over 500 licensed agencies in the State of North Dakota. This will negatively impact our State.

For the above reasons, I am asking that you strongly consider the following fee increase:

Service of process increase from \$20.00 to \$30.00 for each person served.

Increasing the \$40.00 fee for levying or executing a writ to \$50.00.

The commission for collecting any amount under a levy would increase from 1 to 1.5 percent.

For the above reasons, I am asking that you oppose SB 2244 in current form and give good consideration for what I consider a reasonable fee increase.

Sincerely,

Brent Olsen
Chief Operations Officer