

**2023 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS**

**AFFAIRS HB 1250**

# 2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1250  
1/26/2023

Relating to the definition of designated electronic communication and the procedural requirements for refusing veterans preference.
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Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 3:52 PM.

Chairman Austen Schauer, Vice Chairman Bernie Satrom, Reps. Landon Bahl, Claire Cory, Jeff A. Hoverson, Jorin Johnson, Karen Karls, Carrie McLeod, Karen M. Rohr, Vicky Steiner, Steve Vetter, and Mary Schneider present. Rep. Louser all present.

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Electronic hiring program
- Deadlines for administrative hearings
- Eliminate certified letters

Rep. Stemen introduced HB 1250 with supportive testimony #17233.

Lonnie Wangen, Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, offered testimony in support of bill, #15684.

Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting at 3:58 PM.

*Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk*

# 2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1250  
1/27/2023

Relating to the definition of designated electronic communication and the procedural requirements for refusing veterans preference.
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Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 11:31 AM

Chairman Austen Schauer, Vice Chairman Bernie Satrom, Reps. Landon Bahl, Claire Cory, Jeff A. Hoverson, Jorin Johnson, Karen Karls, Carrie McLeod, Karen M. Rohr, Vicky Steiner, Steve Vetter, and Mary Schneider present. Rep. Louser all present.

### Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

Representative Vetter moved a do pass on HB 1250.

Representative Bahl seconded.

Roll call vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Austen Schauer	Y
Representative Bernie Satrom	Y
Representative Landon Bahl	Y
Representative Claire Cory	Y
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	Y
Representative Jorin Johnson	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Karen M. Rohr	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Steve Vetter	Y

Motion carries 13-0-0.

Representative Rohr will carry the bill.

Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting at 11:32 AM.

*Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1250: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Schauer, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB  
1250 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

**2023 SENATE AGRICULTURE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HB 1250**

# 2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HB 1250  
3/3/2023

A bill relating to the definition of designated electronic communication and the procedural requirements for refusing veterans preference.
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10:30 AM Chairman Luick called the meeting to order.

Members present: Chairman Luick, Vice Chairman Myrdal, Senator Lemm, Senator Weston. Members absent: Senator Hogan, Senator Weber.

### Discussion Topics:

- Certified mail
- Non-electronic notification
- Electronic notification

10:30 AM Lonnie Wangen, Commissioner, North Dakota Veterans Affairs, testified. # 21321

10:35 AM Chairman Luick closed the hearing.

10:35 AM Senator Myrdal moved a DO PASS on HB 1250

10:35 AM Senator Weston seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Senators	Vote
Senator Larry Luick	Y
Senator Janne Myrdal	Y
Senator Kathy Hogan	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Mark F. Weber	Y
Senator Kent Weston	Y

Motion passed 6-0-0

Senator Weber will carry the bill.

10:37 AM Chairman Luick adjourned the meeting.

*Brenda Cook, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1250: Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Luick, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB  
1250 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect  
workforce development.

**TESTIMONY**

**HB 1250**



HB 1250

North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs  
Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner

1/26/2023

**House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee**  
**68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**  
**Representative Schauer -Chair**

Chairman Schauer and House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of HB 1250.

Intent of this bill...

- Provide ability for electronic notifications in veterans employment preference.
  - Eliminate need for Certified Mail if hiring agency uses electronic hiring program
  - Allow applicant to appeal using electronic notification rather than certified mail
  - Provide definition of “Designated Electronic Communication”
  - Provide delivery date as the beginning of the 15-day notice deadline

Need for bill...

- The North Dakota Human Resources adopted an online recruiting solution system in 2017
- 2017 legislation added option of “online recruiting solution system” in lieu of Certified Mail for notifying veterans of non-hire as per NDCC 37-19.1 requirement. HB 1090
- After 2017 legislation when the new “online recruiting solution system” was implemented, it was discovered that the system did not have a “read receipt” option like an email does.
  - This created an issue as to the 15-day deadline for filing a request for an appeal hearing to the ND Commissioner of Veterans Affairs as per NDCC19.1-04 (1)

Outcome of bill...

- Hiring agencies and veterans will be able to send notices of non-hire and requests for appeal hearings electronically rather than by certified mail.
- Hiring agencies can move forward with hiring process sooner as the time for certified mail may be eliminated

Thank you for your consideration.

Lonnie Wangen Commissioner-NDDVA

Good afternoon, Chairman Schauer and members of the GVA Committee. For the record, my name is Greg Stemen, State Representative in District 27. My district includes a portion of South Fargo as well as the communities of Horace, Oxbow, Hickson and the rural agricultural area to the southern edge of Cass County.

I stand before you today to introduce House Bill 1250 on behalf of the North Dakota Department of Veteran's Affairs. This bill allows for the addition of Designated Electronic Communication in addition to or instead of Certified Mail when notifying an individual that he/she has been refused veterans preference. From the standpoint of technological advancement, it is becoming more effective to utilize electronic communications while not necessarily replacing Certified Mail. It simply provides an additional option. The definition of "Designated electronic communication" is also added to statute.

We are hoping House Bill 1250 allows the notification process to become more streamlined and up to date. At this time, I would like to ask Lonnie Wangen, Commissioner of North Dakota Department of Veteran's Affairs, to step to the podium to go into the details of the bill and then stand for questions.

Thank you, Mr. Chair and committee members.

HB 1250

North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs  
Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner

3/03/2023

**Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee**  
**68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**  
**Senator Luick -Chair**

Chairman Luick and Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of HB 1250.

Intent of this bill...

- Provide ability for electronic notifications in veterans employment preference.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Lonnie Wangen Commissioner-NDDVA