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**BRENDA S. DIETRICH**  
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Testimony before the House Committee on Transportation and Public Safety Budget  
HB 2428 – Board of Technical Professions  
Rep. Brenda S. Dietrich – in-person testimony as proponent  
January 30, 2020

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you regarding **HB 2428**. I am Representative Brenda Dietrich and this bill is the result of a phone call from a constituent this past May who is a licensed Geologist in his 70's. He called because when he and a few of his fellow geologists renewed their licenses, the fee had been raised, without prior notification, from the \$5.00 "senior status" renewal cost to \$70.00. This \$5.00 renewal fee, which would equate to a "senior discount" had been in place for many years. He called me to find out why it happened and what, if anything, could be done about it.

I contacted Legislative Research who did some background work for me on the fee structure piece of this issue and the statutory language that governs the Board of Technical Professions, which licenses geologists. I also spoke with the new Director of the Board of Technical Professions who has been very helpful and who realized that he did not have a fee structure in regulation, which would have required the Board to submit the fee structure to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations for approval and review.

Through the Revisor's Office we researched the applicable statutes and determined the best course of action was to simply add the language you see in **line 29 of House Bill 2428** which would require the Board of Technical Professions to **adopt rules and regulations that fix** the fees at the sum deemed necessary to administer the Board's duties. This language would then codify their procedures in statute and govern their fee setting procedures going forward. We also deleted the language in line 26 that required them to determine the fees **on or before November 15 of each year** because it was cumbersome, difficult to adhere to based on budget cycles, and felt to be unnecessary.

I appreciate the work of the Revisor's Office on this issue, and the willingness of the new Executive Director of the Board of Technical Professions to realize the issue and work to correct it.

There is no fiscal effect on adopting this bill.