

Hello,

I am writing today in support of HB 1282. There have been many factors throughout the last several years which have shown me, and hopefully most North Dakotans that the federal government does not work in our interest.

A few examples come to mind, possibly the most recent of which is the election of 2020 and events directly thereafter. The US Supreme Court failed the people of the United States by not acting when several states did not follow the US constitution in determining election laws; when our own representatives had a chance to uphold their oath to defend the constitution by objecting to unconstitutional electors picked in these states they failed the people of North Dakota. We are already seeing direct results of these failures. Within one week of Joe Biden taking office, the Keystone XL pipeline project has stopped. How many jobs, current and future, were destroyed by the cancellation of this pipeline? How long will it be until we in North Dakota experience the results of more direct action against our state's energy industry, and how many jobs could be destroyed by a "Green New Deal" type of agenda?

Another example which is easy to recall is talk of covid-19 regulations at the federal level, such as mask mandates and restrictions on businesses. Mandating the use of face coverings is certainly not something that the federal government should be doing; individual states should not be mandating face coverings either, but it would be a more appropriate discussion at the state level. There are several arguments about the effectiveness of face coverings, but that is a different discussion altogether. In several states, there are not only mask mandates, but business-killing restrictions. Even here in North Dakota we have seen businesses shut down due to restrictions implemented by executive order at the state level, and our state covid response has been less drastic than some of these other states. These heavy-handed regulations would be detrimental to our state's small businesses, and therefore our economy, if implemented at the federal level.

We have also heard for years about restrictions to the second amendment of the Constitution of the United States. I do believe that we may start to see some of these restrictions. One that I have read about is a tax or permit for the purchase of ammunition. Taxing ammunition could make it impossible for people to practice their right to bear arms. I believe that the state legislative body must protect the people of North Dakota by protecting this right, and all other unalienable rights.

A \$15-dollar minimum wage, an end to fracking, "equality" in girls' sports; the list of things that could negatively affect our state is seemingly endless. HB 1282 would be an effective tool for the state of North Dakota to protect the constitution and the rights of the people in our state. I believe that there would be very minimal negative effects to passing this legislation because it would allow the state to target individual pieces of federal legislation, regulations, and executive orders. This bill would give the State of North Dakota an avenue to "Neutralize federal statute, regulation, or executive order," many of which (from what we can gather based off of previous experience, current regulation, and what we have been told by many in Washington DC) will be harmful to the liberties of the people of North Dakota and to our state's economy.

Thank you for your time,

Perrin Goetzfridt