

Written Testimony

Regarding: HB-1270

To: North Dakota House Judiciary Committee

From: Dustin J. Stuber

Honorable House Judiciary Committee Members,

My name is Dustin J. Stuber, a rancher from Stark County and life long North Dakotan. I am writing to you today regarding House Bill 1270. HB 1270 amends NDCC Section 12.1-31-14, informally referenced as the “Peeping Tom” law.

Over the last 20 years technological advances have affected almost every element of our lives and have required us to constantly adjust to these advancements. The days of a Peeping Tom gazing through a window at night, however still possible, can now be replaced with an intruder equipped with thermal, infrared, night-vision or aerial camera that can be purchased at your local sporting goods store and be used to intrude or interfere with the privacy of another. For instance, the smartphone located in your pocket can easily be outfitted with a professional grade thermal camera capability once only imaginable in a James Bond film. Since these intrusions are possible without physically trespassing or breaking and entering the victim’s property or home, the need for expanded privacy laws are justified. The possibilities of intrusions with these gadgets are profound and serious but we remain governed by laws that mostly cover peeking through windows.

After reviewing HB 1270, I believe that this amendment brings our current Peeping Tom laws into the 21st century. This will create a safer environment for the citizens of North Dakota. The protection of privacy and reputation should be defended without regard. For these reasons I ask for your support of the HB 1270 in its current form.

Thank you for your service to the people of North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Dustin J. Stuber
Dickinson, ND 58601