

Testimony on HB 1393
Brandi Hardy
Legislative Coordinator
North Dakota Human Rights Coalition

February 2nd, 2021

Greetings Chairman Klemin and Committee Members,

I am Brandi Hardy, the Legislative Coordinator for the North Dakota Human Rights Coalition (NDHRC).

NDRHC was founded in 2002, to increase the awareness of human rights needs and raise visibility on human rights violations. As a statewide, membership-based organization, we advocate for good policies and against restrictive policies that create barriers so all North Dakota residents can enjoy their full rights in the state.

We stand in favor of HB 1393. Restorative Justice provides an opportunity for healing for a victim or a community that has been victimized, to seek justice and receive closure.

According to the Center for Justice and Reconciliation, an organization that has been advocating for justice reform for over twenty years, “restorative justice repairs the harm caused by crime. When victims, offenders, and community members meet to decide how to do that, the results can be transformational.”

In 2019, the North Dakota Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, found ND to have notoriously high occurrences of hate crimes. Many of which impact more than a single victim. HB 1393 could help educate the offender and mend broken communities to create a more meaningful and unified transformation from such crimes.

On behalf of the North Dakota Human Rights Coalition, I strongly urge the committee to vote a DO PASS on HB 1393.

I can be reached via email for further questions. Thank you.

Brandi Hardy
Bismarck, ND
brandihardy60@gmail.com

