

To the Senate Appropriations Committee:

In American society our driver's license is more than just another card in our wallet. Our driver's license carries with us an acknowledgement from our state of residency that we are who we claim to be. It is a tool, and the situations in which we use this tool are extensive.

The Department of Transportation is asking you to approve an initial \$1M plus ongoing maintenance costs, to create a duplicate driver's license on our mobile phone. A so-called "e-driver's license".

This bill is being presented to you at a time when:

- **(Cost)** The Governor of North Dakota has for the past two biennium highlighted the under-funded nature of the existing information technology (IT) infrastructure, yet we want to add a "nice-to-have" to the software portfolio?

"This budget moves forward with some long overdue projects which replace or upgrade systems that rely upon antiquated, and I must say ancient, mainframe technology... we've kicked this IT can down the road for decades, there is not much can left to kick, and we've run out of road" – Governor Doug Burgum

- **(Security)** Many State of North Dakota software systems have been compromised via the China-based Hafnium hack, yet we want to increase the computing endpoints to include citizens' phones?
- **(Security)** Governments across the country have been compromised by the SolarWinds hack. They are a primary target. They are not immune.
- **(Privacy)** Apple and Google are behaving as monopolistic oligarchs, yet we seek to bring them deeper into the relationship between the State of North Dakota and its citizens?
- **(Privacy)** How will this NOT become a government-held database of every instance of a citizen's use of the digital driver's license? How will that NOT be abused?
- **(Risk)** Does North Dakota really want to increase the chances of being part of a large-scale privacy lawsuit?

Voting NAY to HB 1072 equates to **fiscal common sense** and **citizen data privacy**. If you really want to spend \$1M on software, consider directing it to the next brittle mainframe system that needs to be replaced.

REFERENCES:

<https://www.grandforksherald.com/business/technology/6920998-North-Dakota-suspects-Chinese-hackers-had-control-of-public-email-servers-during-cyberattack>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2020/12/14/dhs-doj-and-dod-are-all-customers-of-solarwinds-orion-the-source-of-the-huge-us-government-hack/?sh=75c4930125e6>

Gov Burgum's 2021-23 Executive Budget Address: <https://youtu.be/2HhjkrMzLZA?t=1041>

[https://www.journalofaccountancy.com/issues/2017/jul/data-security-risks-drivers-licenses.ht](https://www.journalofaccountancy.com/issues/2017/jul/data-security-risks-drivers-licenses.html)

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