

<u>HB 1173</u>

Good morning Chairman Vedaa and members of the committee,

My name is Cale Dunwoody, and I am here on behalf of Americans for Prosperity—North Dakota. Our organization is dedicated to reducing barriers and empowering individuals to achieve success. I stand before this committee in support of House Bill 1173.

This bill allows for greater transparency and accessibility during one of our most important civic duties. Most recently, Americans for Prosperity—North Dakota assisted in the opposition to:

- 2018's Ballot Measure #1, establishing Article 14 of the North Dakota Constitution.
- 2020's Ballot Measure #3, which addressed elections and redistricting.

In both elections, our organization directly opposed these changes to our State's Constitution.

The proponents of each measure were able to depict their measure in a different light. In 2018, proponents used words such as public integrity, to deceive the voters of North Dakota.

Personally, I am for public integrity and ethics, so are many North Dakotans. In 2020, the same proponents were able to infiltrate our election system once again by deceiving the people of North Dakota. Phrases like "help heroes vote" circled across our state as signatures were being collected, but failed to mention the following:

- Open Primaries
- Rank-Choice Voting
- Increased Government

■ More "Red Tape" and Bureaucracy

This measure would have brought California election protocol to North Dakota. Americans for Prosperity—North Dakota and our coalition partners were able to get the measure off the ballot through legal action. North Dakota is susceptible to similar Constitutional amendments. More measures will circulate our state, leading to more nefarious tactics to deceive your constituents.

Furthermore, Americans for Prosperity—North Dakota has seen first-hand, like most of you, what can take place during election time. We are supporting legislation that allows for greater transparency in our ballot measure process. Much like digital privacy use agreements and written contracts, citizens should have access to the entirety of the measure in the ballot box. I would ask that you give this bill a favorable recommendation and further prevent groups from tainting our ballot measure process.

I will now stand for any questions.

Cale Dunwoody
Grassroots Engagement Director
Americans for Prosperity—North Dakota