

Testimony on SB 2316
Brandi Hardy
Legislative Coordinator
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Greetings Chairman Vedaa and Members of the Committee,

I am Brandi Hardy and I am the Legislative Coordinator for the North Dakota Human Rights Coalition. Our membership base is state-wide with people who are of different races, religions, gender identities, socio-economic class status, sexual orientation, from rural communities, and larger cities. Our mission is to champion policies that allow all North Dakotans to enjoy a free and safe existence in our state.

NDHRC is in support of SB 2316, changing the date of Five Nations Day to be more in sync with the National Celebration of Indigenous People's Day.

North Dakota currently has five federally recognized Tribes and a history of trials and triumphs between the settlers and Indigenous people. With each step our state takes to heal our past and look towards a more unified future, it's important that we are honoring our Native American on an appropriate day.

This day of celebration is shared with fourteen states, the District of Columbia, and 130 cities across our nation. According to the Indian Affairs of ND, we have 31,329 Native Americans living in our state. By changing Five Nations Day to the second Monday in October, we, as a state, are honoring the culture, heritage, and life of our Indigenous community members.

Let us celebrate in unity and move this bill forward. Please vote DO PASS on SB 2316.

Thank you,

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