

Professional Fire Fighters of North Dakota

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Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Mr. Chairman and members of the Political Subdivisions Committee,

My name is Darren Schimke, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of North Dakota representing 415 professional firefighters across our great state. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of HB 1371 as it is written.

We do realize that the passage of HB 1371 will not negatively affect all members of the PFFND. What it will do, is affect multiple Local membership along both the Western and Eastern boarders. The Locals along both boarders constitute approximately half of our membership. Of those members, approximately 8% live across the North Dakota boarder in a different State. The passage of HB 1371 would negatively impact those firefighters commute to and from their fire stations, their sleep patterns and family lives.

Additionally, the Professional Fire Fighters are in support of a similar Bill, SB 2201. SB 2201 is identical to HB 1371 except that it contains an amendment that states Minnesota, Montana and South Dakota each must commence the observance of daylight saving time year round as the standard time before North Dakota will.

For those reasons, the Professional Fire Fighters of North Dakota oppose HB 1371 as it is written and request that you consider a Do Not Pass recommendation from the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee.

Thank You,

Darren Schimke