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Chair Longmuir
Political Subdivisions

Dear Chair Longmuir and Members of the Committee,

My name is Callen Cermak, and I am a resident of Bismarck, ND. I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 1384, which addresses the election of full-time county auditor.

I oppose this bill because it mandates how local government governs. This bill is the result of an elected official in Burleigh County that does not have the education nor experience to perform the position to the standards required.

If it is the intent of the state to mandate that they are elected positions, they need to allow the addition of minimum qualifications for the position. Currently the only qualification for auditor is the individual who is **at least 18 years of age and a resident of that county**. The auditor serves as the County's chief financial officer and custodian of certain court records and documents. Many county governments are equivalent to medium to large corporations. I can assure you they would not hire a CFO with no education or qualifications.

We do not elect judges that do not meet the minimum qualifications, county auditor positions should be no different and require minimum qualifications.

In conclusion, I urge you to oppose House Bill 1384 because it needs to leave governing local. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Callen Cermak, CPA

