



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1222

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director
North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action
March 12, 2025

Dear Chairman Beard and honorable members of the Senate Education Committee,

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action would like to testify in support of House Bill 1222 and respectfully requests that you would render a “DO PASS” on this bill.

Our organization believes it is incredibly important, now more than ever, that public schools reinforce our country’s core values of liberty and freedom. One simple way of accomplishing this is by prioritizing recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in classrooms.

Sadly, a Gallup poll from June, 2023¹ showed that a mere 18% of Americans aged 18 to 34 are “extremely proud to be American”. The same poll reflected that in the 55+ demographic, a much larger 50% of U.S. adults are “extremely proud to be American”. This disheartening discrepancy between age groups reflects the growing disillusionment our young citizens have with their own country.

Given this diminishing patriotism in our younger generations, we believe North Dakota students would benefit by holding reverence for our flag and appreciating the historical significance it has in our nation’s story by starting each school day with the Pledge of Allegiance. While this small step alone cannot fully solve the greater issue of waning patriotism among our youth, it undoubtedly is a move in the right direction to instill in them that the U.S. flag, what it represents, and those who have died defending it, remain worthy of their honor and respect.

For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action respectfully requests that you please vote House Bill 1222 out of committee with a “DO PASS” recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony, and feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Jorritsma
Executive Director
North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action

¹ <https://news.gallup.com/poll/507980/extreme-pride-american-remains-near-record-low.aspx>