

North Dakota House of Representatives Senate Education Committee

Feb. 12, 2025

Chairman Beard, Vice Chair Lemm and members of the Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for taking up this important issue and for allowing my testimony,

My name is Bette Grande, I am a former legislator of many years in the ND House. I write to you today from this perspective and on my own behalf.

The ND legislature and our Governors have a long history of support for this issue. We have passed resolutions, proclamations, and legislation to stop the boycott, divestment, and sanction of Israel.

Some will say that it is not necessary to add this to the education curriculum, saying others have been persecuted and other excuses, but least we forget that this is a long suffering and still current issue. The education needs to be continued and clear.

After the attach of Oct. 7, 2023 our Governor proclaimed the following;

[Burgum urges support for Israel after terrorist attack](#)

*"The attack by Hamas terrorists on Israel is reprehensible, and the fact it occurred on a Jewish holiday is despicable. We stand with our democratic ally Israel while lifting up in prayer the victims of these horrific attacks," Burgum said. "We also pray for the safe return of the priests and parishioners from North Dakota congregations who are anxiously waiting to board flights home. Today we reached out to the U.S. State Department and spoke with Father Ackerman, offering to assist however possible to help ensure the safe return of those North Dakotans and all Americans wanting to return to U.S. soil."*

Note that the attach on the Israeli people affected and included North Dakotans, and US citizens. It carries over into all of society.

Much of the problem today is the lack of knowledge and misunderstanding. Now is a good time to break that and ensure the children learn truth and understand.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Blessings,

Bette Grande District 29

