

Senate State and Local Government Committee

Testimony of Travis R Zabloutney SCR4027

March 6, 2025

Chairman Roers and members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee:

I ask you to recommend a do not pass on HCR4027. I am Travis Zabloutney resident of Minot, NW Region Chairman of the NDGOP and District 5 NDGOP Chairman.

Since the passage of a bill brought by Senator David Hogue 3 or 4 sessions ago, local legislative districts have had the ability to raise funds for the support of its local district candidates and activities supporting the regular activities of the district meant to encourage participation and to get people out to vote. There is no better way to engage grassroots members of a district in fundraising than with a raffle. Individual members can make their own contributions to the fundraising of the district by simply asking those that support the efforts of a district to make a \$20 or sometimes \$100 contribution through the purchase of a raffle ticket. The total value of prizes in a raffle is limited currently which puts a cap on the amount an organization can raise via this method. Taking away the ability to fund raise in this manner will give an upper hand to big money and often out of state interests. Raffles are truly a form of local fundraising and is money comes from local supporters. I would not make any sense to disallow this fundraising method for local political districts as it has been an can continue to be and excellent fundraising option for local district level organizations in support of its candidates.

In addition, this is an issue that does not belong in the constitution. If any control at all is necessary in this regard it should be created in century code.

I STRONGLY URGE A DO NOT PASS ON SCR4027

Respectfully,

Travis Zabloutney

District 5 Chairman NDGOP

Minot, ND

701-721-2188