

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

**I strongly oppose HB1444.**

This bill is clearly an attempt to strip local communities of control, paving the way for big corporations like Applied Digital to get what they want, regardless of how it affects nearby residents and landowners.

HB1444 would allow counties to take over township roads without the consent of local boards or property owners. That's not how we do things in North Dakota. We believe in local decision-making, not mandates driven by corporate interests.

Our townships know our roads, our people, and our needs far better than any out-of-state company ever will. This bill undermines the very principles of rural governance and private property rights.

Don't let Applied Digital or any other corporation dictate how we govern our communities. **Vote NO on HB 1444** and stand up for local control.

Thank you.

Joe Mongeon, Rolette