

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1254**

Introduced by

Representatives Ruby, Bellew, Kasper, Wrangham

Senator Hogue

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subdivision a of subsection 2 of section 16.1-10-02 of  
2 the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the use of state or political subdivision services or  
3 property for political purposes; and to provide a penalty.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision a of subsection 2 of section 16.1-10-02 of the  
6 North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 a. "Political purpose" means any activity undertaken in support of or in  
8 opposition to a statewide initiated or referred measure, a constitutional  
9 amendment or measure, a political subdivision ballot measure, or the election  
10 or nomination of a candidate to public office and includes using "vote for",  
11 "oppose", or any similar support or opposition language in any advertisement  
12 whether the activity is undertaken by a candidate, a political committee, a  
13 political party, or any person. In the period thirty days before a primary  
14 election and sixty days before a special or general election, "political purpose"  
15 also means any activity in which a candidate's name, office, district, or any  
16 term meaning the same as "incumbent" or "challenger" is used in support of  
17 or in opposition to the election or nomination of a candidate to public office.  
18 The term does not include activities undertaken in the performance of a duty  
19 of a state office or a position taken in any bona fide news story, commentary,  
20 or editorial.