



## NORTH DAKOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL  
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### **Representative Jeffery J. Magrum**

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**COMMITTEES:**  
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O1/21/2021

Good day Chairman Koppelman and fellow committee members.

For the record I am Jeff Magrum Representing District 28 in your state House of Representatives.

I stand before you to introduce HB1256. This bill looks simple but as you will hear it is most likely one of the most important bills of the session.

The first part of the bill is a prohibition on state and political subdivisions from soliciting or accepting any grants or donations from private persons for elections operations or administration. This issue came to light after this last election as we found out that Mark Zuckerberg's organization granted over 400 million dollars to counties nationwide and also granted to 42 counties in the state of ND to be used for elections. This is alarming considering the potential for fraud in our elections. There are strings attached to this money and I understand that the counties that received funds have to fill out forms that describe how the funds were spent. Ironically there have been reports of voter fraud throughout the nation. Mark Zuckerberg is the founder of facebook and facebook sells campaign adds as well as controlling the algorithm which means that facebook controls who sees the ads and how many times. Not only is this a conflict of interest it does create an avenue for mischief. Elections are a sacred right and the integrity of the elections should be protected at all costs. Our state is fully capable of conducting safe and fair elections without giving up our sovereignty.

The second part of the bill is a prohibition on the Governor of ND from endorsing or making political contributions directly or indirectly to a candidate for an office of the Legislative Assembly. This is based on Article five section 10 of the ND State Constitution. I will refer to the handout to explain my points further.

In closing, remember that we have three separate branches of government to keep a checks and balance on each branch of our government. There should always be a healthy tension between the branches. I pray that this doesn't happen to another candidate for the legislature. Please help to get this fixed.

Thank you and

I stand for questions.

"Click here to type"