

Thank you for considering my written testimony in opposition to the rescinding of the ERA amendment in SCR 4010.

Women have been fighting for equal footing for decades. Actions to lessen what women already deal with will give an unfavorable impression of North Dakota and will drive talent away from here.

I would think, after watching much of the legislative body stand up to see a North Dakota legislator ousted for terrible behavior toward women, that it would give credence to keeping this amendment as is. Rescinding this amendment only gives fuel to continue such abhorrent behavior toward women.

Also, companies are looking for diversity, so a company looking to move into North Dakota will pause on that, knowing the state is unsupportive in its view of women.

Many bills being brought forward this session are painting North Dakota as an unprogressive, unwelcoming body of people. That saddens me and it should concern those who look at the fiscal impact of chasing away progress.

It saddens me that I have to look my daughters in the eye and say they matter less, according to the message being sent by this bill.

I encourage a no vote on this bill, SCR 4010.

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