



North Dakota AFL-CIO
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**Testimony of Landis Larson, ND AFL-CIO President
In Opposition to HB 1398
March 3, 2021**

Chairperson Klein and members of the Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee:

My name is Landis Larson, President of the North Dakota AFL-CIO. The North Dakota AFL-CIO is the federation of labor unions in North Dakota, representing the interests of all working people in our state.

I am testifying on behalf of the North Dakota AFL-CIO in opposition to House Bill 1398.

Working people need paid family leave to maintain their quality of life for their families when unexpected caretaking needs arise. In 2021 in The United States of America, workers should not have to choose between caring for their loved ones and maintaining a basic quality of life. Employers should have access to offering this important benefit to retain a high quality workforce and decrease recruiting and training costs.

The North Dakota AFL-CIO supports any and all efforts to ensure all working people in North Dakota have access to some type of paid family leave. We also oppose efforts to take away local control from political subdivisions, like cities and counties, and hamstringing their ability to find solutions to problems identified by the very citizens they represent. We should not be tying their hands behind their back for ideological purposes.

I recommend a "Do Not Pass" recommendation on House Bill 1398.

Respectfully Submitted,
Landis Larson
North Dakota AFL-CIO President