

## **Testimony in Support of House Bill 1120**

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January 19, 2023

Chairman Schauer and honorable members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am submitting testimony in support of House Bill 1120 and respectfully request that you issue a "DO PASS" on this bill.

I'm sure most if not all of us in this room remember growing up reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of every school day. It meant that we were proud to be Americans, proud to stand in the footsteps of those who fought and died to make our country what it is today, and committed to fight for the freedoms it represented. I'm afraid that in our current culture, that is often lost or even viewed with contempt.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag is a promise or oath of loyalty to the Republic of the United States of America. North Dakota Family Alliance believes that recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance is an important reminder and reinforcement for future generations that being committed to our country matters. Are we proud of everything in our country's history? Certainly not. But we still love her and need to show the respect she deserves. Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance is one important and concrete way of doing that and passing that legacy on to our children and grandchildren.

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action respectfully requests that you pass HB 1120 out of committee with a "DO PASS" recommendation.

Thank you for allowing me to testify, and I'd now be happy to stand for any questions.