

# House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee

## House Bill 1446

Andrew Alexis Varvel

Written Testimony

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Chairman Schauer and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck.

One thing I like about the North Dakota Legislature is how every bill receives a hearing and every bill receives a vote on the floor. One of the unavoidable side effects of this policy is that bills such as House Bill 1446 wind up on the agenda.

In colleges and universities, some of their highest salaries get paid to the coaches of successful sports teams. These high salaries come at the expense of job security. Fans are not known for tolerating losing coaches. For similar reasons, the cost of hiring and retaining teaching staff in North Dakota state colleges and universities would skyrocket. Is North Dakota really prepared to massively increase the salaries of professors simply to retain them without job security?

This bill's proposed loss of job security would massively reduce the appeal of North Dakota unless it comes with a massive increase in salaries. Indeed, it is puzzling that House Bill 1446 has not come with a fiscal note appended to it to show just how expensive its effects would become on our state budget.

HB 1446 would put North Dakota on the map, and not in a good way.

There are many other people with more skin in the game, more facts and figures, and more eloquence than yours truly. And yet, I still join their chorus against this piece of legislation. Please provide a DO NOT PASS recommendation for HB 1446.

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