

Thank you for this opportunity to make this submission in opposition to HB 1446.

HB 1446 should be rejected.

I write here as a citizen of the United States and as a resident of North Dakota. I do not speak for Dickinson State University (DSU) or the North Dakota University System (NDUS).

Like with HB 1198 (to get rid of anonymous open records requests), from my point of view, there is good reason to believe that HB 1446 reflects efforts to avoid facing trouble and accountability within the NDUS. This has been my own viewpoint from the start (when learning about HB 1198, and then learning about HB 1446). Dustin Gawrylow has provided some big picture connections to consider that pertain to HB 1198 and HB 1446. As part of my testimony submission, and referenced below, I include his article.

Referenced below, I also include two additional sources as part of my testimony submission, which include my strong perspectives on HB 1446. I have communicated openly within these sources (and elsewhere) about the problems with this bill. I will continue with this open communication against what is, in my judgment, a larger anti-whistleblowing endeavor with respect to DSU and the NDUS. Interestingly, as I see it, with the submission of *and* reaction to HB 1446, Representative Lefor and President Easton have opened some windows to potential levels of sunshine that are needed for both DSU and the NDUS.

Don't fall for HB 1446. If you are interested in the good governance of the NDUS, then don't take off of the table the latitude that tenured faculty have for necessary discussions of faulty procurement, retaliatory behavior, academic integrity, and overall management. Please read closely the three sources that I have submitted as part of this written testimony.

Dr. Eric Grabowsky, Associate Professor of Communication (tenured), Dickinson State University, Dickinson, North Dakota, (701) 306-5982

“House Majority Leader’s new bill aims to overhaul university tenure process”
James B. Miller, Jr., January 20, 2023, The Dickinson Press

<https://www.thedickinsonpress.com/news/north-dakota/house-majority-leaders-new-bill-aims-to-overhaul-university-tenure-process>

“Is there a legislative agenda to silence whistleblowers at Dickinson State University?”
Dustin Gawrylow, January 21, 2023
North Dakota’s Watchdog Update (North Dakota Watchdog Network)

<https://watchingnd.substack.com/p/is-there-a-legislative-agenda-to>

“Letter to the Editor: Don't Fall for House Bill 1446”
Dr. Eric Grabowsky, February 1, 2023, The Dickinson Press

<https://www.thedickinsonpress.com/opinion/letters/letter-to-the-editor-1>