



HB 1249

House Human Services Committee

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Chair Weisz and House Human Services Committee Members: My name is Katie Fitzsimmons and I serve as the Director of Student Affairs at the North Dakota University System. I am representing the North Dakota University System and its eleven institutions in opposition to HB 1249. The bill could open campuses to an unlimited liability to litigation by aggrieved parties and lose significant revenues earned through summer camps and conferences.

The language in section two of the bill places the campuses in an unusual predicament. All NDUS campuses host camps and athletic groups during the summer months and throughout the year. Some of these camps are sponsored by the NDUS institution and for others, the outside groups rent the space from the campuses. Would NDUS campuses have to verify the sex assigned at birth for all participants of all camps, conferences, and workshops that use NDUS facilities on a short-term contract? What about camps that are not institution-sponsored? Placing this herculean task onto our limited summer conference staff would make managing a camp schedule with thousands of participants, some from out of state, nearly impossible. It is an unenforceable stipulation. If this bill moves forward, the North Dakota University System and its campuses request an amendment to address our concerns in section two.

The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education has not yet reviewed this bill and does not have a position at this time. That standing, the simple reason that this bill creates mandatory tracking of individuals that we do not have the capacity to perform, the North Dakota University System Office respectfully requests a Do Not Pass on HB 1249. I thank you for your consideration and I stand for your questions.