



1 HB 1265

2 Testimony in Opposition

3 Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services Committee. For the record my name
4 is Kevin Hoherz, I am representing the North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders
5 representing school leaders across North Dakota. I come to you in opposition to HB 1265.

6 Our opposition is from the standpoint of our position of curriculum determinations for
7 school districts. As a past school administrator, we wish for our school boards to wrap their
8 arms around a district with appropriate policy so their administrators and teachers can do a
9 great job. However as soon as they open their arms and dip their hands and fingers into the
10 internal operations, the security of good policy becomes compromised, and entities become
11 dysfunctional. Similarly, we view the legislatures' role with the state. We want them to wrap
12 their arms around all of us with good sound policy (law) and then allow the businesses,
13 entities, and schools to do their jobs and all should be better by that well-defined policy set
14 by the state. Understanding each other's role and how we can help our students is important.
15 It is possible too that some policy you may see introduced may be in the lanes of other groups
16 that would otherwise execute law. The legislature can open its arms a little too much and
17 dipping hands and fingers into what should be the job of NDDPI through content standards
18 development, and by our local boards that set curriculum for a district, teachers that execute
19 the approved curriculum by executing the content standards set forth by NDDPI and by
20 administrators who assure that has been completed. And then by their partner associations
21 to ensure that their members have the tools they need to be supported to best execute their
22 jobs.

23 Many school districts offer human growth and development and human sexuality instruction
24 through other curricula like health, AP Biology, Human Anatomy, and/or Career and
25 Technical Education courses like Child Development. It currently is not a standard in the life
26 science curriculum.



1 The North Dakota Council of Education Leaders and the group we represent are in
2 opposition of this bill based on the testimony provided. We feel that adding new curriculum
3 and standards should continue to follow the standard review process that is currently
4 implemented by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction I am open to any
5 questions.