

ORAL TESTIMONY SCRIPT: SB 2260

Chairman Weisz and
Members of the
House Human Services Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck, District 47.

My preferred pronouns are rock/paper/scissors. As in, "When talking about paper, committee members should remember how rock can occasionally express scissors opinions in a playful manner."

I oppose Senate Bill 2260. This bill has some good features. For example, I really like Section 1 subsection 6, which prohibits schools from withholding health information from a parent.

Unfortunately, this bill's good features are strongly overshadowed by its bad ones.

Please delete Page 2, Line 31.

This provision may sound good, but it fails to address disruptive parents.

Should an atheist parent have a right to intrude on the proceedings of a religious club at a public school? I don't think so.

And please delete Section 2. It's just plain awful. It would stifle teacher creativity, multiply several more layers of red tape, and interpose school districts - and the Century Code! - into family quarrels.

Don't go there.

By all means, inform parents about a student's extracurricular clubs and activities. But a veto power? No.

By all means, inform parents about a student's names, nicknames, and pronouns. But a veto power? No.

Fostering resistance to an extracurricular activity, name, nickname, or pronoun would only serve to promote greater attachment to it. If you don't like wokeness, its best antidote is adolescent smart aleckiness.

According to Libs of Tik Tok last August, a middle school student asserted alternative pronouns - banana and rock. And the rest of his class took his side.

He, or rather banana, is my hero. So far as I am concerned, if banana says rock pronouns are banana and rock, then rock pronouns are banana and rock.

The future generation is doing just fine.

As it is, SB 2260 needs a tummy tuck.

Page 2, remove line 31

Page 3, remove lines 18 through 31

Page 4, remove lines 1 through 31

Page 5, remove lines 1 through 31

Page 6, remove lines 1 through 3

Renumber accordingly

Otherwise, please give Senate Bill 2260 a strong and unanimous DO NOT PASS recommendation. Thank you. I welcome questions from the committee.