

Dear Chair Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to the House Bill 1333 . I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

Not only am I concerned about the unintended consequences of this bill, but also the shuttering of one's personal freedoms. Are we to ban adults from dressing up for Halloween or costume parties? What about theatre performances that traditionally have males in female rolls? Edna Turnblad in Hairspray; Peter, in Peter Pan; literally any play by Shakespeare; Dustin Hoffman in Tootsie; and the list goes on and on.

I am curious about what a law like this could do to the economy of North Dakota if major theatre and music productions decide they would rather not go to a state where they can potentially be fined for their craft. Theatre and music productions, like drag shows, exist to entertain crowds. They want people to feel happy, and included while creating an atmosphere that everyone is welcome to be who they are. That is the North Dakota I want to live in, not the one this 2023 legislature is creating.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state:

Best regards,

Kristin Nelson

Founder of Project RAI

(Rainbows are Inclusive)