

NDSU

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

HB 1404

January 26, 2023

Seth Lumley, NDSU Student Government

seth.lumley@ndus.edu – (507) 481-5510

Chairman Porter and Members of the Committee: My name is Seth Lumley, and I am the Executive Commissioner of Legislative Affairs for North Dakota State University's Student Government. I would like to provide testimony in opposition to HB 1404 and to present the perspective of NDSU students on HB 1404.

NDSU Student Government is an organization of students at NDSU elected and appointed to represent the interests of the NDSU student body both externally at places like the capitol and internally through our student senate. We are comprised of members from all academic colleges at North Dakota State University, ensuring students from all majors and backgrounds have a voice. Our mission is to leave the university better than we arrived through ensuring that student voices are heard both on campus and at the legislature.

At NDSU, students have the opportunity to secure their firearms with our university police. Should the student have a need to access their firearm, all they must do is show an officer their ID, a receipt tag given to them when they checked in the firearm, and fill out a form. Importantly, this service is available at all times. This system has proven to be a safe and secure way to ensure our on-campus students can have their firearms nearby if they should ever have need for them while keeping our classrooms and on-campus living spaces safe.

Our campus police work diligently to make certain that NDSU remains a safe place for students to learn without fear. If this bill passes, their job becomes harder and our campus becomes less safe. Without a safe environment to learn, students will be more likely to leave North Dakota and less likely to come here in the first place. So please, I urge you to keep our college campuses safe by opposing HB 1404. Thank you Chairman Porter and Members of the Committee.