



HB 1394
House Transportation Committee
Rep. Ruby, Chair
January 27, 2023

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Transportation Committee, for the record, Matt Gardner, Executive Director, North Dakota League of Cities. I represent the 355 incorporated cities across the state.

We have concerns over HB 1394. This bill would allow certain businesses, mostly large corporations, to advertise in our highway right of ways. Highway right of ways are public property and shouldn't be used to favor certain businesses over others. Signs already exist that inform motorists of the types of services available at certain exits and within communities. Let the public decide if they want to patronize the businesses by the highways or venture downtown. We need to support our local downtown businesses when possible and this bill would further put them at a disadvantage.

To ensure we do not give inadvertent undue preference to certain businesses, I respectfully ask for a Do-Not-Pass on HB 1394.

Thank you for time and consideration. I will try to answer any questions.