



NORTH DAKOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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HB1368

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

For the record I'm Rep. Karen A. Anderson from District 19 up in the NE corner of the state at Grafton.

Today I bring to you House Bill 1368 creating a new section in the Century Code relating to prohibition on investments and contracts with companies that boycott Israel.

This bill protects the states financial interest by ensuring that taxpayer funds are shielded by economic damage and instability caused by parties that engage in discriminatory, national origin-based boycotts against Israel and its trade partners. It protects the social interest of the states by ensuring that taxpayer dollars are not used to invest in companies that would simultaneously undermine the states public policy protections from origin-based discrimination.

The passage of this bill would make clear our state is a safe jurisdiction where trade with Israel is encouraged.

A subcommittee was formed on this bill to encourage that it would be the best it can be for the state of ND. The subcommittee had all parties including OMB and RIO at the table and the final draft you see has been thoroughly vetted by all agencies.

By passing this bill it would put ND in line with 35 other states that have acted and passed similar legislation. Passing this legislation could bolster and enhance our contracts and trade, as this has been the case with other states.

1368 is not a political or religious statement but it is about a business relationship, it's about patriotism and it is about doing business with an ally and business partner.

This bill has no fiscal note.

Mr. Chairman I urge a Do Pass from this committee.

Thank you.