WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 2199

Senate Judiciary Committee on Senate Bill 2199

Date of Hearing: January 18, 2023

Debra L. Hoffarth, 1320 11th Street SW, Minot, ND 58701

My name is Debra Hoffarth. I am a lifelong resident of North Dakota and an attorney. North Dakota Century Code § 1-01-34 is a basis for statutory construction and affects all sections of the North Dakota Century Code that mention gender. The current statute holds the definition that is used by lawyers to help define the term gender in the law generally and this change will significantly alter how laws, and legal documents, are interpreted. Revising this definition will create questions regarding basic legal definitions.

North Dakota Century Code § 1-01-34 should remain as is, with no changes.

Please oppose SB 2199.

Debra L. Hoffarth
1320 11th Street SW
Minot, ND 58701