Dear elected legislators of North Dakota,

Today you are listening to testimony in order to vote with an informed and constitutionally-sound understanding for or against SB 2199.

You'll hear from many witnesses in favor of this amendment to the preexisting section 1-01-34 of the North Dakota Century Code. Those witnesses will more than likely be out-of-state professional naysayers, many with ulterior motives and prejudices, spouting debunked misinformation, and testifying with unqualified backgrounds or even revoked credentials. However, you will also hear from witnesses and constituents for whom this amendment directly effects, in their ability to participate fully in society as American citizens and residents of our country, worthy of both dignity and basic legal recognition.

This amendment pressures individual North Dakotans into the role of doctor, biologist, geneticist, and Recorder-County Clerk. Furthermore, it forces the government into cataloging, investigating, and spending civil officials' time and taxpayers' money on adjudicating and penalizing for something as fundamental and simple as using respectful language.

To the legislators who introduced this bill, Senators Clemens, Vedaa, and Weston as well as Representatives Anderson, Schauer, and Tveit, please turn your attention to more important matters than deoxyribonucleic acid. To the other North Dakota legislators, who have given the space and opportunity for witnesses to share their experiences and testify, please vote against SB 2199.

Thank you.

Lee Williamson