Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

"My name is Gregory Demme, and I am a bi-vocational pastor who resides in District 3. I am asking that you please render a DO PASS on Senate Bill 2231."

The Supreme Court of the United States has recognized that the government may not compel a speaker to affirm a belief with which the speaker disagrees. This bill is necessary in order to protect this foundational principle of free speech for North Dakotans who should not be compelled to violate their religious beliefs or opinions.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue and for your service to the state of North Dakota.

Gregory Demme, Pastor Grace Baptist Church of Minot 5220 14<sup>th</sup> St SE Minot, ND 58701