



POLICE

Mandan North Dakota

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Date: March 2, 2023

To: Chair Senator D. Clemens and Senate Transportation Committee Members

From: Jason J. Ziegler Chief of Police for the City of Mandan

Reference: HB1295 Relating to number plates

I am Chief Jason J. Ziegler, the Chief of Police for the City of Mandan and the current sitting president for the Chiefs of Police Association of North Dakota. I am her today in opposition to HB1295.

I have been in law enforcement for almost 33 years and for the last 7 as the Chief of Police for the City of Mandan. I also worked for an agency in a state that had no front license plate for approximately 26 years and I can speak from experience that not having front license plate does make policing more difficult. Having the front license plate vastly assist the officers locating vehicles of interest and those that may be stolen or were used in a criminal act.

At the Mandan Police Department all of our patrol vehicles have Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) that assist the patrol officer with locating stolen vehicles and vehicles of interest in areas that a crime was committed. Not having a front license plate would diminish the patrol officer's ability to utilize these tools to proactively solve crime and return a stolen vehicle to its owner.

In conclusion the main reason for having a front license plate is to identify the register vehicle. By having a front license plate police officers will be able to conduct a more complete investigation and have the ability to identify vehicles, regardless of the direction of travel, when involved in any investigation. I am requesting a do not pass on HB1295.

Respectfully,

Jason J. Ziegler
Chief of Police
City of Mandan