

Letter of Opposition - HB 1555

Friday, February 7, 2025

Chairman Beltz and members of the House Agriculture Committee,

For the record, my name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our over 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in opposition of House Bill 1555.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. While we deeply respect and support efforts to safeguard national security, we believe this bill, as currently written, would hinder North Dakota's business climate, economic growth, and international partnerships. Specifically, our concerns center on the inadvertent financial and regulatory burdens this bill may place on businesses operating in good faith, as well as the possibility of deterring valuable economic development across the state.

As the committee considers this legislation, we encourage a judicious analysis of its impacts and urge pragmatic modifications that protect national security interests and minimize the negative effects on the business community, thereby safeguarding legitimate economic development opportunities. For these reasons we urge the committee to give this bill a DO NOT PASS.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your commitment to North Dakota's business environment.

11/2

Vice President of Public Policy

Cale Dunwoody

Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce

Sincerely,