

House Bill 1491
Testimony of Cole Kratochvil
House Education Committee
February 11, 2025

I submit this testimony in favor of house bill 1491. The proposed legislation requires the same burden of proof for residency that is in place for voting in state and federal elections. Anything above and beyond is intrusive, excessive, and frankly a waste of taxpayer resources.

As I look through the school/athletic official testimonies in opposition to this bill, all typed up on official school letterhead, I can't help but mention that if this much effort was put into making sure our educational administration and athletic programs were held accountable, situations like what took place in Williston would never have necessitated student athlete transfers.

Parental control and discretion should be primary in both the educational and athletic pursuits of children. Williston's swim team staff is a prime example of why parental control and choice needs to be protected in statute. If the proposed burden of proof for residency is sufficient to vote in elections, it is more than sufficient to verify residency when parents are making those decisions that are in the best interest of their children.

I respectfully request a do pass on house bill 1491.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cole Kratochvil', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cole Kratochvil

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