

Chairman Heinert and members of the committee,

I urge you to vote **Due Pass** on **House Bill 1491** because it is up to this committee to stand up for the student, not to protect an organization that has lost sight of its purpose. The NDHSAA was founded to establish rules and boundaries for student-athletes, yet now it protests when rules and boundaries are proposed for itself.

Why should an organization that governs high school sports be allowed to operate without the same accountability it enforces on students? If this bill is about fairness, then fairness must apply to all—including the NDHSAA. I ask you to put the students first and ensure that no organization holds unchecked power over our schools and athletes.