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**HOUSE GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**REPRESENTATIVE AUSTEN SCHAUER, CHAIRMAN**

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BY**

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**SANDY McMERTY, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE**

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Chairman Schauer and members of the committee, I'm Sandy McMerty and I serve as deputy for Secretary of State Michael Howe. I am here in support of HB1167 which seeks to create disclosures statements for communications or advertising related to a political purpose that have been generated with artificial intelligence or AI.

AI is growing in its usage, especially in the world of design, graphics and media, and has many practical applications in creating efficiencies in the flow of work for many organizations. This bill has a simple purpose which is to add a new section to NDCC 16.1-10, which is to require communications for any political purpose to disclose if they have used AI in the generation of images, graphics, video, audio, text or other digital content in whole or in-part. This section would require a disclosure informing the public that "This content generated by artificial intelligence," similar to other disclosures like "Paid for" statements you currently see in advertising used in political campaigns.

We believe this disclosure is important to give citizens awareness of content for political purpose that has been created with AI, so they can better discern when content may or may not have been altered through the means of artificial intelligence to promote a position or candidate.

I ask for your support of HB1167.