

HB1297 is a clear case of state overreach, stripping Fargo voters of their right to determine how they conduct their own elections. Fargo adopted approval voting through a fair, bipartisan effort, demonstrating the will of the people rather than the dictates of political elites. Legislative preemption in this case is nothing more than top-down control, the kind of centralized government meddling that reek of Chinese-style governance. If state lawmakers can erase a locally approved election method in Fargo today, what's to stop Fargo legislators from turning around and interfering with how a small town runs its affairs tomorrow? Local control is a bedrock principle of North Dakota's governance and allowing the politburo in Bismarck dictate elections in Fargo is a dangerous step toward centralized authority.

Approval voting ensures that elected officials have broad support, strengthening representation and giving voters more choice. Conservatives have won elections under this system. Rather than respecting Fargo's right to govern itself, HB1297 imposes a mandate, forcing a rigid system onto communities whether they want it or not. This kind of heavy-handed state control is exactly the sort of big-government interference and Communist ideology, where the central authority overrides the decisions of the people. This bill isn't about election integrity—it's about consolidating power over individual freedom to vote in a free and fair election.

One must wonder why certain politicians who claim to stand for limited government and personal liberty are eager to push a policy that aligns more with European ideals than with our patriotic traditions of self-rule. Real conservatives and libertarians believe in the wisdom of the people, not in consolidating power in the hands of a few career politicians who seem vested in creating red tape.

Perhaps the real question isn't just about election law—it's about whether these lawmakers are fighting for North Dakotans or if they're just the latest mouthpieces for the globalist ideologies that have been creeping into our institutions for decades.