

January 24, 2025

Dear Legislators,

My name is Tammy Kruger. I am coming to you as a citizen and taxpayer of North Dakota.

I am writing in opposition of the House Bill 1141, pertaining to using public services or property for a political purpose. I understand public funds for personal political matters can be very questionable. We, as the people of North Dakota, do not want those in government to use our tax dollars to fund their non-transparent political agendas. However, the second article of Section 1 concerns me.

There are various organizations whose primary focuses are networking and professional development for their members. These organizations do carry some sort of political stance when issues arise that would affect their membership positively or negatively. Not allowing tax dollars to be used to attend conferences and other learning opportunities simply because an organization has shown a political side will only result in far fewer people being able to participate in these organizations. Less participation means less learning and less community-building.

Some such example organizations include:

North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders,

North Dakota Library Association,

North Dakota Regional Education Association,

North Dakota Association of Counties, and

North Dakota Hospital Association.

Thank you for your consideration in opposing HB 1141.

Tammy Kruger