

I am writing in strong opposition to HB 1141.

This bill seems very targeted and retaliatory. Will it be applied equally to all organizations, or in a partisan manner in order to negatively affect only those organizations the majority party does not agree with? This is unfortunately a question that I don't think is unreasonable, given the current political climate across the country, and the history of targeted legislation we have been seeing here in North Dakota.

I work at a library. My workplace funds my professional development, which I could not afford out-of-pocket. If my library cannot pay the dues and conference fees in order for staff like me to access an organization that supports our career growth, as the North Dakota Library Association does, what quality of worker do you expect to see in North Dakota libraries? What quality of worker do you expect to see in all of the affected workplaces across the state? How does this help retain workers? How does this attract people to the state of North Dakota?

Professional organizations should be allowed to speak on behalf of their members, for the benefit of their members, both when legislation could adversely affect their members, as well as when it could help them. This should be true even for those organizations that support legislation I don't agree with. Can those who support this bill say the same?

Sincerely,

Tonya Palmer

Grand Forks, ND