



January 25, 2025

## HB 1141 – In Opposition

Chairman Warrey and Members of the House Industry, Business, and Labor Committee,

My name is Andrea Placher, and I am the Director of the Williston Community Library, which serves all of Williams County. I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 1141.

I have been a member of the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA) for ten years. During this time, I have built meaningful connections with library colleagues, taken on important roles to represent my community, and gained exposure to new techniques, ideas, and experiences that would not have been possible without this association. Everything I have learned through NDLA has made me a better library director for myself, my staff, and the citizens of Williams County.

As a library director, one of my primary responsibilities is to provide my staff with professional and reliable resources for continuing education. The North Dakota Library Association offers a wealth of knowledge through committee work, presentations, and their annual conference. If this bill is passed, our library will lose access to the association, eliminating these invaluable resources.

This bill seeks to penalize association members across the state simply for wanting to improve themselves, their jobs, and their communities and ensure they have the mechanisms to do so. I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 1141.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrea Placher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrea Placher | Library Director