

Sylvia Bull

Regarding House Bill No. 1150

13 January 2025

To the members of the House Industry, Business, and Labor Committee,

I urge a strong NO vote on this bill re-litigating the Sunday closing laws. As a Christian, and a local pastor in Bismarck, observing sabbath is an important component of my religious belief and practice. However, there are many other residents of North Dakota who practice other religions (or none!) and who have other texts, traditions, practices, and values that are important to them. This bill presumes that all people should honor and observe a sabbath practice and privileges the Christian observance of Sunday as religious sabbath. By doing so, the State would infringe upon the rights of non-Christian North Dakotans to freely exercise their beliefs. This is wrong.

Additionally, with all the exceptions and different cases listed, it seems to me that all this bill would cause is confusion - for employers, workers, and consumers. That is bad for business and bad for North Dakota.

Again, I urge you to vote NO on House Bill 1150. Please direct your efforts to legislation that serves and benefits the lives of all North Dakotans, irrespective of faith tradition or belief.

Sincerely,
Rev. Sylvia Bull
Bismarck