



Letter in Opposition – HB 1150

Wednesday, January 15th, 2025

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

My name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our over 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in opposition to House Bill 1150.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. We believe that if enacted, this bill would directly harm and restrict businesses operating not only throughout our region but across the entire state. Burdensome mandates and laws such as this are detrimental to the vibrancy and vitality of the business community and local economies.

In today's fast-paced and evolving business landscape, decisions regarding a business's operations are best made by the businesses themselves. Localized and autonomous decision-making ensures that businesses can meet the ever-changing needs of their customers and employees. In order to compete effectively in a global marketplace, we must avoid creating unnecessary barriers that infringe upon a business's freedom to operate.

Furthermore, the list of prohibited items in this bill creates disparities among industries and severely limits consumers' ability to purchase the goods and services they need and want. This prohibition will likely drive North Dakota residents to shop across state lines or online, diverting crucial revenue from local businesses and reducing local sales tax revenue.

As this committee considers this bill, we urge you to recognize the unnecessary impacts it would have on businesses, consumers, and communities alike. In addition to this testimony, we have also attached a coalition letter signed by a number of our members. We respectfully urge this committee to give the bill a DO NOT PASS recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration on this critical matter and your support for North Dakota's business community.

Sincerely,

Cale Dunwoody
Vice President of Public Policy
Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce