

January 15, 2025 @6AM, CST

To Whom it May Concern:

I, Kalon M. Gesellchen, native of Goodrich, North Dakota and part-time resident of the same, would like to, along with my wife, Danna R. Gesellchen, voice our opposition to the Sunday Blue laws/closing bill. We believe that the Bible teaches that the seventh-day is the true “Sabbath of the Lord thy God” (Exodus 20: 8-11), and was instituted in the beginning, at Creation. (Genesis 2:1-3). The seventh-day was the day honored by Jesus Himself even in His death by resting on the seventh day, and there is no Scripture evidence that He changed the day of the Sabbath before or after His resurrection. (Luke 23: 54-56, 24:1) The seventh-day is the Sabbath kept by the Apostles many years after the resurrection. (Acts 17:2, Acts 13:42, 44 -note the Gentiles honored the Sabbath as well, not just Jews.)

We believe that this bill is dangerously close to the elimination of the separation of church and state. We believe, in fact, that this bill will bring church and state together and the enforcement of a particular day by civil government is a violation of the laws of God and is unconstitutional as well. In the constitution, we are guaranteed the freedom of religion. This bill threatens this basic freedom.

Protestants from Europe fled the oppression of the Roman Catholic church, which forced its beliefs through civil powers upon all, especially during the Dark Ages, persecuting with the rack, the stake, the guillotine all who opposed and stood for freedom of conscience. Protestants came to the “New World”, to establish this great country on the foundations of religious freedom—freedom of conscience; the right to worship according to convictions, not coercions. This bill is taking a huge step BACK to those religious oppressions.

This nation was founded upon two great principles: Republicanism, which gives every individual “inalienable rights”, which are in the foundation principles of our Constitution. Second, Protestantism, which at its foundation gives everyone the freedom to worship according to the dictates of conscience.

Sincerely,

Kalon M. Gesellchen

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Danna R. Gesellchen

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