



GREATER NORTH DAKOTA CHAMBER  
HB 1150  
House Industry Business & Labor Committee  
Chair Jonathan Warrey  
January 15, 2025

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Arik Spencer, the President and CEO of the Greater North Dakota Chamber. GNDC is North Dakota's largest statewide business advocacy organization, with membership represented by small and large businesses, local chambers, and trade and industry associations across the state. We stand in **opposition** of House Bill 1150.

HB 1150 takes North Dakota back in time and seeks to limit the economic freedom of consumers to make purchasing decisions in their best interest. It also limits the rights of businesses that choose to open their doors before noon on Sundays.

The Sunday morning blue laws repealed in 2019 never required a business to open or mandated people to shop. It did, however, expand economic freedom in ND by removing government interference from people's lives, helping border communities keep dollars in North Dakota rather than sending them out of state or online, and grow North Dakota's economy.

It also does nothing to help employees, as employers are already required to provide accommodations to employees who have strongly held religious beliefs under NDCC 14-02.4-03.

Beyond our philosophical opposition to HB 1150, the bill is rife with inconsistencies by having the government pick winners and losers. For example, while you cannot buy a shirt at the mall with the proposed legislation, you can go to a craft show. If the craft show vendor is selling a shirt, is it still acceptable to purchase it? You can't buy your kid a new pair of shoes on Sunday morning, but you can still buy some beer and bait to go fishing.

We strongly urge you to oppose HB 1150 and maintain our economic freedoms.