



GS Publishing, LLC

Grant County News | Carson Press

P.O. Box 100, Elgin, ND 58533 701.584.2900

Adams County Record | Hettinger County Herald

P.O. Box 749 Hettinger, ND 58639 701.567.2424

Golden Valley News | Billings County Pioneer

P.O. Box 156 Beach, ND 58621 701.872.3755

Morton County News Journal

P.O. Box 416, New Salem, ND 58563 701.843.7567

CHAIRMAN WARREY AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS,

My name is Jill Friesz, owner of GS Publishing, LLC. I own and operate seven weekly newspapers in the southwest corner of the state, and I am an advocate for all newspapers from the state of North Dakota.

I am writing to you today to ask you to please PASS the amendment proposed to House Bill 1398. I firmly believe all residents across the state deserve access to this information, not just those living near the eight newspapers currently designated to publish abstracts from 2,000 out-of-state insurance companies.

As you consider legislation that impacts the lives of North Dakotans, we must prioritize transparency and accountability that are vital for empowering consumers to make informed choices. When insurance abstracts are made publicly available to all readers, individuals can better understand the financial stability of the companies providing these services.

In North Dakota, 86% of adults read print or digital newspapers every month. Distribution throughout all newspapers across the state is the most efficient way to disperse important information. The Insurance Commissioner has proven this is an effective tool as his department consistently submits press releases to all 73 North Dakota newspapers to share timely and essential information.

In addition to achieving our main purpose of providing important information to the readers and keeping historical records, each newspaper receives a financial gain by publishing the abstracts. Revenue is important to every business and would be a difficult loss for most. By voting to PASS the amendment to House Bill 1398, you are also voting to support local journalism and maintain our many local newspapers that act as the heartbeat of our communities.

Thank you for your time and your support of North Dakota newspapers.

Sincerely,

Jill M. Friesz

Owner/Publisher GS Publishing, LLC

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