

House Industry, Business, and Labor Committee
Feb 10th, 2025 HB 1495
Testimony in Support

Dear Chair Warrey and the members of the Industry, Business, and Labor Committee,

I urge a “Do Pass” on HB 1495.

I did some research into the occupational make-up for our lawmakers compared to the general population, [which can be found here](#). What we can see is that by the numbers there are large parts of the population that are not represented within our law making body, because they work jobs that make that virtually impossible.

While our law making body does not need to look any particular way, this information does show that representational government is very much out of reach for many working North Dakotans, who deserve a fair chance as representing the state without losing their job in the process.

While employers may disagree with added protections, we are only talking about the possibility of three people per district to have these protections and only if they win an election. This impact would be significantly less than what we already allow for military service and accomplish the same goal of allowing people to serve our government without sacrificing their jobs and careers.

I personally believe this would be an enormous benefit to our state and give us access to folks who actually live and work the policy we decide on.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state,
Faye Seidler