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Organizer

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Dear Mr Chairman and members of the committee. I am Zachary Cassidy with DRC, writing in support of HB 1292. We have seen Summit and other companies use common carrier status to threaten and sue landowners even before their projects are permitted. South Dakota has already denied Summit common carrier status in that state, it is time we do the same in North Dakota. Looking at the original intent for common carrier status, it was meant for railroads, roads, and other projects that transferred people or goods for a fee without requiring a contract. As Summit and other carbon pipelines do enter into formal contracts with customers, they would be a private carrier. To protect property rights and restore the original intent of the bill, DRC recommends DO PASS on this bill.