

House Bill 1431

Testimony in Favor

Mr. Chairman and Members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee,

House Bill 1431 would resolve a number of longstanding issues with our political party organizational processes by removing outdated language, inserting commonsense regulations, and clarifying ambiguous wording. These changes will help ensure fair and open processes without unnecessary meddling.

Much of this bill is simply cleaning up unnecessary language, including citations of district 'executive committees' which are not defined in this chapter at all. It also wipes out superfluous language specific to "Precinct model" redistricting, which has been optional for districts for many years and remains optional under the wording of this bill. We simply feel these issues are better left to individual districts to define in their own rules and bylaws.

In addition to these things, HB 1431 resolves a number of issues relating to the process for reorganization of districts post-census redistricting. This process had been changed near the conclusion of the last redistricting cycle, and proved to be quite cumbersome and contentious. This bill would remove a lot of confusion, by requiring every district to reorganize, and would define a better process for districts which encompass partially or wholly new territory.

Finally, HB 1431 provides that district bylaws be congruent with NDCC and State Party rules/bylaws, which will help alleviate the challenges faced by those who find themselves in a new district and need to learn a whole new process. Ensuring that District Bylaws conform to both ND Century Code and their parent organization rules will help reduce confusion across the state.

I urge this committee to vote for a "Do Pass" recommendation on HB 1431, and appreciate the opportunity to address you all today.

Sincerely, John Trandem

NDGOP Rules Committee Chair
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