

My name is Dahlia Hamilton. I am writing to oppose HCR 3020, which attempts to declare the “Kingship of Jesus Christ” in North Dakota.

North Dakota is a state with more diversity than many would like to admit. A large population does not recognize or actively practice the Christian faith. By pushing this resolution, ND is taking a reckless stance regarding Christian Nationalism that has historically pillaged and eradicated marginalized communities and religions– Native & Indigenous populations, Islamic faiths, and more. Each citizen in North Dakota is given the freedom of religion, and should never have a specific religion imposed on them.

Everyone is free to choose their religious belief. By claiming the “Kingship” of Jesus Christ, the ND House is further promoting Christian Nationalism and further marginalizing communities that have been consistently subjected to oppression. The North Dakota legislation should focus on cultivating an environment in the state where all religions are accepted and uphold the “wall of separation” that was coined by Jefferson– a founding father.

Adopting this mentality into the North Dakota government is a blatant attempt at adopting a state religion-, which is unconstitutional at the state and federal levels of government. The establishment of a religion would be disastrous and open opportunities for discrimination against non-Christian citizens. Hence, resulting in further marginalization and religious genocide of non-Christian religions.

I urge this committee to withdraw the resolution for the sake of religious freedom and autonomy in North Dakota and to deepen their understanding of religious diversity and protection as well.