

North Dakota State's Attorneys' Association

February 6, 2025

To: House Transportation Committee
Hon. Chairman Ruby
Hon. Vice-Chair Grueneich
Members of the Committee

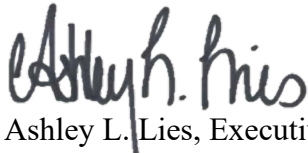
RE: House Bill No. 1229

Chairman Ruby, Vice-Chair Grueneich, and Members of the House Transportation Committee:

The North Dakota State's Attorneys' Association (NDSAA) is submitting this letter requesting a **DO NOT PASS** to House Bill 1229.

While we appreciate the intent of the Bill is to prevent officers from having to pursue offenders fleeing them, creating a law that makes the owner of the vehicle liable is not the right way of doing this. As written, a person who is gone from their home for a week and returns to find their vehicle is missing, could be liable under this law if the theft wasn't reported within a reasonable time after the violation occurred. This Bill potentially punishes innocent owners for criminal conduct wholly taken outside of their control.

On behalf of the North Dakota State's Attorneys:



Ashley L. Lies, Executive Director