Members of the ND Senate Education Committee.

I am writing in opposition to HB 1144

This bill is a direct assault on the rights, dignity, and well-being of transgender students in our public schools and sets a dangerous precedent of exclusion, discrimination, and governmental overreach into matters of personal identity and safety. Your role as legislators is to pass legislation that supports the heath, wellbeing, and safety of North Dakotans. This bill does the opposite by targeting a specific population of people.

It is unclear why you are spending such a large amount of time and resources on such a small portion of the population when there are many other issues impacting the whole state.

I urge a do not pass.

Thank you,

Deacon Erin Power Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Fargo, ND District 10