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Greetings Mr. Chairman and Committee Members,

I am Zachary Cassidy, of Dakota Resource Council, here to express our opposition to SB 2208. Simply put, this bill punishes committees if they wish to create additional restrictions for state energy infrastructure for safety or public nuisance. If a community wishes for their elected officials to pass additional safety standards, they ought not be punished for it. Additionally, this bill may punish communities for laws that are already on the books.

Communities ought to have the right to impose additional reasonable safety measures, if doing so is what the citizens of a community want. Carbon pipeline and other energy infrastructure may indeed be a part of this states future, but shouldn't communities be able to decide on them for themselves if they want them, or how close to their community it should go?

Thank you,

Zach Cassidy