

Testimony

March 4, 2025

Senate State & Local Government Committee

HB 1259

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Education & Environment Committee, my name is Russ Hanson, and I am with the Associated General Contractors of North Dakota (AGC of ND). The AGC of ND is the largest construction trade association in North Dakota who perform all types of commercial construction (highway/bridge, vertical commercial, water/utility). Our membership also consists of equipment and material suppliers and has been in existence since 1951. I appreciate the opportunity to provide opposing testimony to HB 1259.

North Dakota has one of the shortest seasonal construction seasons in the nation. Couple that with the vast number of critical infrastructure projects that need to be completed in that window of time has daylight hours at a premium. It would be severely detrimental to the completion of these projects if Daylight Savings time was eliminated. The two largest North Dakota communities have local ordinances not allowing construction to begin until 7 a.m. Eliminating daylight savings time would have a sunrise at around 4:45 a.m. much of the summer. Thus, losing many critical hours of daylight in the mornings and losing critical hours of sun in the evening. I would guess other communities have similar local ordinances with similar construction restrictions.

I appreciate the opportunity to present this testimony and the thoughtful consideration this committee utilizes when they address the legislation assigned to this committee. Please issue a Do Not Pass Recommendation to HB 1259.