



Letter of Opposition – HB 1259

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Chair Roers and Members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee,

My name is Cale Dunwoody, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo Chamber of Commerce (FMWF Chamber). On behalf of our more than 1,700 members, I respectfully offer testimony in opposition to House Bill 1259.

At the FMWF Chamber, our mission is to protect and promote business, inspire individuals, cultivate communities, and influence action. The passage of this bill will have negative effects on commerce throughout our state, with significant impacts on border communities.

We believe this matter should be handled uniformly at the federal level. With multiple states and provinces surrounding North Dakota, this bill would create burdensome delays, increased administrative costs, constant confusion, and potential economic loss. In the FMWF we operate as a dynamic, bi-state region with thousands of individuals living, working, educating and recreating on either side of the border every day. These residents, businesses, students, and visitors traveling between North Dakota and Minnesota, multiple times a day, would have to constantly adjust their clocks to accommodate this difference in time.

If enacted, North Dakota would be only the second state in the continental United States to make this change and would be the only state in the Midwest to eliminate daylight savings. For example, an individual traveling from Glendive, MT to Moorhead, MN, you would pass through four time zones (MDT, MST, CST, and CDT) within approximately 400 miles. Now imagine if you had businesses, employees and customers trying to operate in this scenario. This bill would drastically alter the lives of many North Dakotans and the operation of businesses throughout the state.

As this committee evaluates this change, we encourage you to thoroughly consider the unintended consequences this will have on communities like ours. This bill will place undue burdens on businesses and residents – disrupting standard business operations and societal practices across our great state. For these reasons, I respectfully ask this committee to **OPPOSE** House Bill 1259.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cale Dunwoody".

Cale Dunwoody
Vice President of Public Policy
Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo Chamber of Commerce