

House Bill 1297
Andrew Alexis Varvel
March 27, 2025

**Madame Chairman Roers & Members of the
Senate State & Local Government Committee:**

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel.

I live in Bismarck.

I believe in respecting local decisions.

The people of Fargo decided by referendum to approve their own way of conducting elections. Approval voting is their choice. It may not be my choice, but it is theirs. So long as it isn't "one man, one vote, one time", state government should not countermand these local decisions.

I prefer ranked choice voting. We should be using ranked choice voting for our legislative races. Some people heartily believe in a two party system. I don't. A two party system can distort our political system into a fun house mirror that fails to reflect the actual sentiments of voters.

I think ranked choice voting could change that.

Still, approval voting and ranked choice voting is not for everyone. That's fine. The people of Fargo have made their choice. The rest of us should respect that choice. The rest of us don't need to follow them.

Please give House Bill 1297 a **DO NOT PASS** recommendation.

Thank you for your time. I am open for questions from this committee.