

January 28, 2021

Paul Sorum
5551 36th Ave S
Unit F
Fargo, ND 58104

RE: HB 1239 – Election Transparency

Chairman Kasper and Members
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
600 E Blvd Ave
Bismarck, ND 58505

Chairman Kasper:

House Bill 1239 is a simple step towards ensuring integrity in our elections in North Dakota.

Under present election law, there is no transparency at all. There is no option for voters or candidates to verify the outcome of an election.

This presents a serious concern. If election fraud occurs or if there is a clerical error in the election, it is completely undetectable by voters and candidates in this state. No one is allowed to view the ballots or images of ballots cast in any election in North Dakota, even if a recount is granted making election fraud and clerical errors in our elections are undetectable.

We must ask ourselves the question, if election fraud and clerical errors in our elections are undetectable, have they ever happened? Reasonable people would answer, “Very likely, yes.”

A second important question is the following: If the results of an election can not be verified, is it really an election? Clearly, the answer is “No.” If no one can verify the results of an election, why bother having elections? This urgent issue can be easily corrected by passing HB 1239.

I urge the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee to vote to restore election integrity by voting for a DO Pass recommendation on HB 1239.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Sorum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul Sorum