

Testimony in support of HB 1256  
Before the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee  
January 21, 2021

Chairman Kasper and members of the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee:

I submit my testimony in support of HB 1256. It is my understanding this bill relates to endorsements and contributions by the governor and a prohibition on using nonpublic funds for elections operations; and to provide a penalty.

I can see no better time for the submission of this bill than the current state of affairs surrounding our most recent elections process in the United States of America. Currently, it is likely 75 million people in America believe or suspect the Presidential Election in favor of President Trump was stolen from them through corrupt monies hidden as grants and dispersed in key swing states. Additionally, many citizens have come to realize the corruption in our elections systems has grown to an unacceptable level. One could ascertain this awareness was created ONLY because President Trump and his team brought the fraudulent vote statistics, the means of how the corruption occurred and the systems used to commit that corruption forward so United States Citizens would understand what happened and how their vote was stolen. I personally believe my vote was stolen through a fraudulent election then not supported by my state's congressional representatives by challenging the electoral process. To me, it seems more likely than not that the use of monies designated as grants for the elections process in some states were at least contributory to the fraud and corruption witnessed and documented in the 2020 election process. As a citizen I am appalled at the level of election fraud and believe it must be prosecuted and stopped from occurring in the future.

I find it difficult to think that moneys used for endorsements or contributions to elections operations wouldn't somehow become corrupted in the process, especially as we have witnessed the targeted use of those funds in key swing states and likely local elections throughout our country. Again, one need only watch the recent 2020 elections debacle to know something is seriously wrong in multiple ways within our elections process. This process **MUST BE REFORMED!**

This bill is coming forward from citizens who see the concerns about corruption and are willing to work in their communities to stop this type of influence from happening in elections within the state of ND. I am one of those citizens.

I implore you to support this bill as a means of keeping corruption and the possibility of corrupt intents out of our election process. Passing this bill is essential to keeping fair and free elections in North Dakota and ultimately the United States of America.

We cannot be so naïve as to think corruption has never been an influence in our elections in ND. As citizens of North Dakota, we must close any gaps which allow corruption to enter into our elections system. I believe this bill will help close one gap and respectfully request your support of HB 1256.

Sincerely,  
Tamara Unterseher, Bismarck ND