

February 11, 2021

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

RE: HB 1495 TESTIMONY

Dear Members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

I am writing to you in support of HB 1495.

We need to reign in the power of our Governor and the State Health Officer and put it back in the hands of you, our elected representatives.

We have seen what can happen in other state's when a Governor chooses to abuse the privileges afforded to them in the name of an emergency. We have also seen this happen in our own state particularly with regards to restrictions on restaurants and public events. These "emergencies" and "state of disaster" can be used as an excuse to extend restrictions on businesses, public events, and other areas for periods of time much longer than are necessary. These privileges afforded to our Governor and State Health Officer can be abused, as we have witnessed in other states during this past year, as a result of the pandemic.

The provisions of HB 1495 are a reasonable limitation on the Governor and State Health Officer. They put you, our elected representatives, back in control of decisions which have a profound affect on our businesses and the residents of North Dakota.

I support a DO PASS recommendation on HB 1495.



Jeffrey L. Ebsch
411 4th Street SE, PO Box 143
Stanley, ND 58784
(701) 721-2708
ebschj@yahoo.com