

HB 1299

Prohibiting a retail establishment from refusing to accept cash as payment: In Support

Dear Members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee,

My name is Tara Dukart, and I am a business owner. I live near Hazen, ND, and I support HB 1299. Using and accepting cash as legal tender is a concept I never anticipated would be in jeopardy.

I do not know whether or not future law makers or businesses will attempt to move us into a “cashless society,” but my hope is that this bill would prevent that from becoming a reality.

I believe people have the right to financial freedom, and that includes using physical cash. Many of us participate in Dave Ramsey’s method of paying with cash instead of credit cards. It keeps us accountable and financially responsible by avoiding impulsive purchases or going over our planned budgets.

A cashless society would mean no tooth fairy coins for our kids, no paper bills placed in birthday cards or wedding cards, no easy exchange of cash at local businesses or community events. More concerning to me is the thought of a government or bank having the power to turn on and off digital funds without our consent.

Since not all business currently allow payment in the form of checking account checks, I believe cash should always be a legal option for payment. Therefore, I urge you to support HB 1299 to protect our financial freedom and responsibilities.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tara Dukart
Seek First Ranch & Seek First Holistic Solutions
Hazen, ND