

Testimony for the
House Industry, Business, and Labor Committee
HB 1299

Andrew Alexis Varvel

January 19, 2021

Chairman Lefor and Members of the House IBL Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck, District 47.

I like this bill. I like this bill a lot. This is a good piece of legislation to defend the right of people to pay their bills with legal tender currency at retail establishments. This is about keeping retail establishments from behaving like a bunch of digital snobs.

Not everybody has a credit card. Not everybody has a PayPal account. Not everybody uses a smart phone to pay bills. Not everybody wants one. Sometimes, using cash is about having no better options. Sometimes, using cash is about convenience. Sometimes, using cash is about not wanting to submit to Chinese-style surveillance. Sometimes, using cash is about the sheer sentimentality of seeing the portraits of Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington on our currency.

Regardless, paying for groceries and restaurant bills with legal tender currency should be a right, not a privilege. I appreciate how workers at retail outlets wear gloves and use sanitizer to protect themselves – and us – from this pandemic. I also appreciate the dangers of relying extensively on digital currency, as Communist China now does.

Again, this is a good bill. Please vote DO PASS for House Bill 1299.

Thank you.

Andrew Alexis Varvel
2630 Commons Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58503
701-255-6639
mr.a.alexis.varvel@gmail.com