

HOUSE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE
MIKE LEFOR, CHAIRMAN JANUARY 19, 2021

TESTIMONY BY
ALEXIS WANGLER
RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1299

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee, my name is Alexis Wangler. This is my written testimony in regard to House Bill No. 1299.

I am strongly in favor for this bill. As Dave Ramsey would say, "Cash is king." Cash is very convenient. With a quick trip to the store for a couple of small items needed for a meal, cash can easily be given to pay for those couple of items without standing at the counter to swipe a debit card or credit card.

Did you know that paying with cash actually reduces your chances of having your identity stolen? Each swipe of your card or input of your card numbers online increases your chance of having your personal information compromised. In the era of online shopping, this is rather concerning.

Did you also know that it has been proven that people have a physical & emotional attachment to cash? There is no physical or emotional attachment to a debit card or credit card. Because of this physical &/or emotional attachment, he or she will be less likely to spend cash carelessly. Therefore, he or she will be less likely to acquire debt.

Using cash actually saves people money. Not everyone has the ability to charge a debit or credit card. Retail establishments are usually charged a fee to charge debit or credit cards. People are more likely to take a lesser offer for products, goods, or services if cash is used.

I also agree that a retail establishment should be subject to a civil penalty for discriminating against those that want to use cash as tender. If there wasn't a penalty, what would stop the retail establishment from violating this bill?

Thank you for your time and consideration.