

Testimony  
House Bill 1473  
House Industry, Business & Labor Committee  
January 25, 2021  
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National Electrical Contractors Association, Dakotas Chapter

Good Morning Chairman Lefor and members of the House IBL Committee. My name is Bill Kalanek and I'm here today on behalf of the Dakotas Chapter of NECA.

I am not an electrician so please save those questions for those to follow. You have before you a piece of legislation that was brought forward by contractors themselves asking that this body write into the law some additional requirements for advertising by North Dakota's licensed electrical contractors.

For years North Dakota's licensed electrical contractors have been serving the public with distinction. Over the years some of those contractors, especially those in our border communities have worked across state lines and have obtained licensure in other states. Through their experience they learned that many other states require identification by way of license number on advertising and vehicles. Our contractors' experience has shown that by clearly identifying vehicles and indicating license numbers on business cards it serves to inspire confidence that the consumer is working with a licensed professional.

Identifying vehicles serves an additional purpose as well. By requiring electrical contractors to mark their vehicles it aids electrical inspectors in identifying when the contractor is on site and available to examine the work performed. Additionally, this requirement would aid inspectors in identifying contractors operating illegally in the state, especially along our borders and in the oil patch.

The Dakotas Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association supports HB 1473 and would encourage this committee to give the bill a Do Pass recommendation.

Thank you.