

**HB 1144 – Testimony by Dustin Gawrylow (Lobbyist #266) North Dakota Watchdog Network**

This bill is a nothing but one big slippery slope, and it should be addressed at the federal not state level.

By definition, anything involving the internet is an Interstate Commerce Clause issue – so a state trying make separate rules would open up the state to lawsuits from that direction.

So long as Section 230 is still in play, the issue of Federal Supremacy also will open the state up to legal challenges.

Either the federal government is going to amend Section 230, and more than likely enact the kind of government controls that will stymie businesses involved online.

Or, the federal government will do nothing, and leave it to the market to figure out.

In either case, North Dakota should stay out of it – for not only fear of being sued – but also since such social media companies may just not let people from North Dakota on their sites.