

**Senate Education Committee**  
**67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**  
**Senator Donald Schaible-Chair**

Chairman Schaible and Senate Education Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of HB 1143. This bill will...

- Provide an opportunity for ND youth to learn first-hand what patriotism is and why it is important for our country to prosper.
- Provide an opportunity for our patriotic organizations to engage with our future generation of leaders and community members.

During this time of increasing social media, opinionated news and the ability to pursue peoples opinions in a way that our country has never before seen it is important that we provide a safe and positive experience for our youth to learn about the community they are a part of. It is important they hear the stories and missions of our patriotic organizations so they can have a better well-rounded experience to base their understanding of what their community members are doing for them. Now more than ever we need to engage our youth so they can understand the effect they can make on their futures and the future of our country. They must understand that patriotism is about supporting our constitution, community, country and our beliefs and empowering our leaders to do the same.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lonnie Wangen

Commissioner-NDDVA