

The ND Disabilities Advocacy Consortium (NDDAC) is a member organization that *advocates for public policy to ensure that people with disabilities have the supports and services they need to be as productive and independent as possible*. It addresses issues that may impact individuals of all ages with all types of disabilities.

Specific to HB 1253, NDDAC is pleased to support the proposed amendment to ND State law. While voting in ND has been made more accessible over the years for people with disabilities, including use of the current Express Vote machine, the last year with the pandemic has shined a bright light on the challenges for many individuals with disabilities of voting when a paper ballot is the only means available. The proposed language should make the process more amenable for those challenged with using a paper ballot. This may include individuals with sight impairments as well as other disabilities such as Cerebral Palsy, where it can be difficult to read and/or mark a ballot.

The NDDAC is appreciative of the Secretary of State's Office for its work on this important issue and the resulting proposed amendment. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Julie Horntvedt, Chair

Website: [www.nddac.org](http://www.nddac.org)