

Testimony — HB 1447
March 25, 2021 — Senate GVA Committee

Chairman Vedaa and members of the Senate Government and Veteran Affairs Committee,

I am Representative Claire Cory, from District 42, Grand Forks. District 42 encompasses the University of North Dakota and surrounding areas and as a result of that lots of my constituents are college students. I am introducing this bill to benefit those university student constituents in district 42 and throughout North Dakota.

House bill 1447 **as amended** would help university students to vote in elections. The university ID card would act as a subplimination document just as a utility bill does. This bill was amended in the house GVA committee to limit to only students who are already North Dakota residents, which means that they already have a state issued North Dakota ID. (The original goal of the bill however was to allow a university ID to be the sole identification card.)

North Dakota voting requirements (one of the following):

- North Dakota Driver's license
- North Dakota Nondriver's identification card
- Tribal government issued identification (including those issued by BIA for a tribe located in North Dakota, any other tribal agency or entity, or any other document that sets forth the tribal member's name, date of birth, and current North Dakota residential address)
- Long term care identification certificate (provided by North Dakota facility)
 - the individual may supplement the identification with a current utility bill; a current bank statement; a check or a document issued by a federal, state, local, or tribal government (including those issued by BIA for a tribe located in North Dakota, any other tribal agency or entity, or any other document that sets forth the tribal member's name, date of birth, and current North Dakota residential address); or a paycheck.
 - **It becomes difficult to obtain supplemental documentation while living in the residence halls or on campus student housing.**

At the end of the day this would benefit North Dakota residents who are attending a university that's not in their hometown. Passing this bill would guarantee students easier access to a ballot and allow them to vote in local elections.

Please give this bill a DO PASS recommendation. I am happy to answer any questions.

-Representative Claire Cory