



Dear Legislators,

I am a proud North Dakotan. But I confess that I am horrified that we are living in a time when the consideration of HB 1386 is even necessary. I have boasted for years that one of the things that makes America the envy of the world, is that our Constitution guarantees that as citizens of the United States, we are free and sovereign agents over our lives, our businesses, and our futures. That in America, individuals are not just permitted, but encouraged to chart their own course, plan their own future, and provide for their families according to their dreams, and abilities. And that so long as they pursue their goals, ethically and legally, they need not ever fear intervention, obstacle, or harassment from their own government. That the whole idea of the “land of the free, and the home of the brave” is that each one of us is to remain free from government interference, as we conduct our personal and business affairs. And that those of us who are brave enough to risk starting and running our own business, whether farming or construction, or baking, or repairing other peoples shoes, we can do it with confidence, knowing with absolute certainty, that our success, or our failure will be determined by our own efforts, ingenuity, persistence, and the response of the free market, but never by intrusion or interference from the government.

The governments role is to encourage innovation, commerce and entrepreneurship. And that’s all. It is not the governments place to to tell a shop owner what he may or may not sell, what price he may charge, or when he may open his doors for business. That type of governmental meddling in the affairs of private business owners has always been the purview of socialist, or fascist dictators, and has no place in a free society, and certainly not in the United States of America. Even if lockdowns and business closures were effective at stopping the spread of disease, which the best and most current analysis proves they are not, it would still be entirely wrong for the government to impose such restrictions on private businesses.

I cannot believe that anyone in the North Dakota legislature would be so brazenly opposed to the core principals of American freedoms, that they would under any inducement or coercion, vote against this bill. Please show your dedication to the foundational understanding, that all people, and certainly all Americans, are endowed by their Creator, with the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and vote yes on HB 1386

Thank you.