



March 18, 2021

Dear Senate Political Subdivisions Committee,

Chairman Burckhard and members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee, Family Policy Alliance of North Dakota would like to formally indicate its support of House Bill 1259.

HB 1259 is a relatively straightforward bill. It simply seeks to gather public input before any wastewater surveillance is undertaken in a jurisdiction.

We have frankly been concerned about the intrusion into the lives of North Dakota families during this COVID-19 pandemic and worry that it has set a precedent in how much authority government entities can exercise in the name of "emergencies". The practice of using wastewater testing is not a reliable way to accurately predict the number of infected individuals in a community. Nevertheless, it is being used for this purpose.

The overall effect of this type of use of questionable science is chilling on constitutional rights and possibly illegal. We urge you to allow North Dakota citizens to have a direct say in this intrusive and likely ineffective monitoring that has the potential to trample rights and freedoms. We respectfully ask for a "DO PASS" committee recommendation on HB1259.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Jorritsma".

Mark Jorritsma
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