

North Dakota House of Representatives

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Representative Steve Vetter

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My name is Steve Vetter representing district 18.

HB 1167 guarantees every county will have a physical polling location on the Election. If you look at the century code, you will find it already states there must be one physical polling location per county. However, this law guarantees it cannot be changed by executive override.

For example, a couple of election cycles ago, the primary election was mail-in only and did not allow for people to vote on Election Day which is contrary to tradition.

If an election needs to be mail-in only election because of an emergency then a special session could be called and the issue settled quickly. Especially with the newer approved technologies available because it could be done remotely. In the previous affected primary there was plenty of time to call a special remote session.

Also, This bill is in no way an attack on our current Governor. This is about limiting the office's power to have the ability to limit the people's ability to vote in person for the Elections. Example: already has unlimited abilities when an emergency is called.

Elections are too important to be in the control of one person especially if that person is also running in that election. If a significant change like not having one physical polling location per county really needs to be changed because an emergency then the decision should be made by a consensus of the legislature not not person.

Again,. This bill guarantees there can't be an all mail-in election without having a minimum 1 physical polling location per county. This is a very simple but very important election integrity bill. I would ask that you give HB 1167 a favorable Do Pass recommendation. Thank you and I will stand for questions.

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