

## Representative Mike Lefor Testimony

### HB 1523

Good morning, chair Schauer, vice chair Satrom and members of the GVA committee, for the record my name is Mike Lefor and I represent District 37-Dickinson in the House.

I appreciate the opportunity to address my concerns with HB 1523. I have many concerns regarding this bill. First and foremost, there are provisions in this bill regarding redistricting and what happens after that. In the special session, the legislature passed a bill which afforded the party chair the opportunity to appoint temporary chairs in districts where the majority of the executive committee has been redistricted to another district.

This worked out very well in the republican party as the chair vetted candidates throughout the eight districts which were affected. These temporary chairs did an excellent job in setting up the time and location of each district reorganization. This legislation was brought forward as a part of the discussion within the redistricting committee in which I served.

This legislation purports to set up a system for reorganizations happening after the next redistricting process which will not happen until 2031. This is a bill offering a solution in which there is no problem. The affected parties are private organizations who have not asked for this legislation, in fact, had no previous knowledge of the bill. I was notified of the bill by the sponsor, but I did not know all of the provisions contained within it.

Typically, if legislation affecting an organization in such a substantial way, the organizations should have been notified. The bill completely changes the manner in which district party caucuses can be held, it eliminates the ability for these districts to hold elections via precinct selections.

On page two, beginning on line 29 it takes away the ability for a district committee to appoint an executive committee. Why? What problem is this trying to solve? On page three, beginning on line 11, it takes away the ability for a party chair to appoint a temporary chair and the rest of the language which was just approved by the legislature just over a year ago. Again, why?