

## Testimony on HB 1523

My name is Perrie Schafer, I am the Chair of the ND Republican Party.

As I read the document, 1523, I am more that happy to talk about changes to the operation of how the party is governed, however in the case of 1523 I have never been asked to discuss anything relating to this bill. I have asked all our Executive members of the State committee and no one has been asked to weigh in on this bill or in any way asked for input to this bill.

Secondly, there is mention in the bill to change from the "Precinct" model of organization.

To be clear, each district already has the option to form under the "Precinct" model or the "At large" model, so I am not sure why legislative action needs to be taken on something that doesn't exist as an issue in our party presently.

Redistricting is also mentioned in bill 1523, in that the districts need to be allowed to provide a 30 day notice rather the 10 days official notice when noticing their meetings in the paper for reorgs or their individual conventions, if this is an issue, the NDGOP State committee of which all 47 chairs are members, as well as the executive, can offer this as a rules change and the committee can take it up with it's members and make the decision from there, there is no Legislative ruling that needs to be done.

Why would the legislature want to tell a private organization how to notice meetings? Isn't that the role of the organization?

Also with respect to redistricting, which happens every 10 years, the chair was given the ability to chose temporary chairs if a given district isn't able to reorganize...this time around there were about 17 districts that had to reorg and of that 17 or 18; 8 were not able to form a legal entity to even call a meeting. The process that we used to ask people to temporarily chair the district was to call the sitting legislators in said district, and ask who they'd suggest, as leadership, of the 8 appointed, 6 were elected to chair the district and 2 were elected at large from their district that we did not appoint. This process can only take place every 10 years...the bill asks you as legislators to fix something that isn't broken and won't even be up for consideration for another 10 years.

If the party wants to take up a change to this process, they are welcome to notice it properly for the next state meeting and we will take it up.

The biggest issue I have with 1523 is starting on page 3 line 26 and going through line 8 on page 4.

This section simply asks the legislature to remove 10 members of the State Committee...remove them! How is removing duly elected members of the State Committee a function of the Legislature?