

Chairman Klemin and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Amber Vibeto and I reside in District 3. I respectfully urge a 'do pass' recommendation on HB 1334.

- This bill clarifies and sets needed guidelines for our law enforcement officers at every level as to the difference between a domestic terrorist and a criminal.
- The passage of this bill will clear up public confusion from incidents in the recent past regarding what a domestic terrorist actually is. Ambiguous definitions of domestic terrorism at the federal level make it very difficult to understand who is an enemy of the state and who is a criminal. The passage of this bill will ensure due process is guaranteed for all North Dakotans.
- In September of 2021, the National School Board Association sent a letter to the Biden administration asking them to use the Patriot Act to look into "acts of malice, violence and threats against public school officials," which the association said "could be the equivalent to a form of domestic terrorism and hate crimes." The NSBA eventually apologized for threatening and labeling concerned parents as domestic terrorists, but this incident clearly underscores the need to protect citizens from the weaponization of federal agencies.
- Depending on the issue, it seems as if we are applying labels and definitions differently for similar offenses. Why is there a difference in the burning down of American cities in 2020 and the breaking of windows at the US Capital in 2021? This is an unequal application of our laws.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.