



North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Representative Matt Heilman

District 7
5501 Flatrock Drive
Bismarck, ND 58503-8929
mheilman@ndlegis.gov

COMMITTEES:
Education
Political Subdivisions

January 26, 2023

Chairman Porter and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

I am Representative Matt Heilman representing district seven of Bismarck. I come before you today to present House Bill 1404 which is to protect carrying on college campuses. The bill not only protects concealed carry of dangerous weapons and firearms, but also protects sprays and aerosols as forms of protection. Students and people on college campuses should be prepared for when situations turn for the worst. It is not feasible or expected of a college to have their jurisdictions swarming with campus police around the clock at all times. This policy will serve as a deterrent for those who wish to do harm. An individual will be more attracted to committing an act of violence in an area they know dangerous weapons or sprays are not allowed.

There have been many unfortunate events in our country where there have been violent acts committed on college campuses. When an individual is a victim or potential victim of a violent crime on campus there won't always be someone there to help or save them.

College campuses in parts of the country have started to ban sprays such as Boston University, Tufts University, Northeastern University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Many people do not feel comfortable carrying

a firearm and prefer carrying an item like pepper spray. It is in our best interest to ensure that policies like these never enter our state. People on campus grounds should be allowed to protect themselves.

I attempted to find school policies in North Dakota when in regard to firearms and dangerous weapons. North Dakota colleges that currently prohibit or limit dangerous weapons (defined in 62.1-01 of NDCC) are NDSU, University of North Dakota, Bismarck State College, Williston State College, Minot State University, Dickinson State College, Valley City State University, Mayville State University, North Dakota State College of Science, and Lake Region State College.

I am more than happy to stand for any questions you may have and I respectfully ask for a do pass recommendation.

Proposed Amendment: Page 1 Line 17

Remove “-.02” to have it read as:

Allow any employee of a college, university, or any other institution of higher education to interfere with the carrying of a concealed firearm or dangerous weapon by an individual authorized to do so under chapter 62.1-04-02; or

The reasoning for this proposed amendment is because removing that section will include all of NDCC’s definition of “dangerous weapons.” As amended, the bill will cover both permitless carry (62.1-04-02) and license to conceal carry (62.1-04-03).