



North Dakota House of Representatives

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COMMITTEES:

Judiciary
Government and Veterans Affairs

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Chairman Luick and Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs committee members,

For the record, my name is Claire Cory. I represent District 42 in Grand Forks, which includes the northwestern corner of Grand Forks and expands out to include the Grand Forks Air Force Base. I am here to ask for support of House Bill 1109. I was informed of a need for this bill after having conversations with the Office of the Adjutant General and the Veterans Affairs Commissioner.

House Bill 1109 updates the legal definition of "military", "armed forces", and "uniformed services" to include the U.S. Space Force. The newest branch of the armed services, the U.S. Space Force, was established in 2019. The N.D.C.C hasn't been updated since. This change ensures our Space Force will receive the same benefits (benefit eligibility, veterans preference, income tax exemptions...) as other branches. This is a positive change we can make to show that North Dakota is pro-military.

Chairman Luick and members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee, this concludes my testimony. I respectfully ask for a do pass recommendation from your committee. I am happy to stand for any questions.