

My name is Lydia Gessele and I reside, on the land, in District 14. I would like to share my concern over the language on page 5, lines 15-21 that refer to the definition of money. This language appears to pave the way for Central Bank Digital Currencies, also known as CBDCs, which will lead to unprecedented levels of power for the federal government.

CBDCs are entirely under bureaucratic control because every digital dollar has a unique fingerprint. Every single transaction can be surveilled, recorded, or even reversed by a bureaucrat's push of a button. Not only can the government tell how much we are spending or saving, but what we are spending those dollars on and where we are investing your savings. Our money is hard earned and how we choose to spend or invest it should not be dictated by the government.

CBDC's can be earmarked for certain purchases and forbidden from others. For instance, the government could easily dictate which dollars of your income go to buying food or which dollars you can use to heat or cool your home. Such practices are found in communist countries so voting for this bill would show your further push for communism.

CBDC's can effectively force spending and prevent saving by imposing maximum savings levels and preventing "hoarding" by confiscating unspent digital dollars. We should do the opposite and preemptively ban CBDC's and protect North Dakotans from the ideological micromanagement of their hard-earned money by a corrupt federal government.

Thank you for your time.