

**Do Pass Testimony  
of Doug Sharbono, citizen of North Dakota  
on HB1273  
in the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota**

Dear Madam Chair Roers and members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee,

I am writing as a citizen and believe HB1273 is great legislation. This legislation fulfills the concept of "one person, one vote."

Approval voting has been an absolute disaster in Fargo. Fargo citizens were told by the proponents of approval voting that it would solve the problem of the minority number of voters electing the officeholder. Achievement of their goal was a failure. As an example, only 13.86% and 12.58% of the Fargo City voters elected the top two city commission candidates on primary elections 2022. This is pathetic. The 2018 proponents of approval voting did not give us the benefit they promised.

While I was canvassing and assisting campaigning, approval voting was mass confusion amongst the citizens. Many did not have a clue to which candidates the approval voting method applied, and this was the second season of it under Fargo's belt. Despite much instruction, there were many spoiled votes in 2022 due to overvotes on non-city elections on the ballot. Approval voting is a scourge to democracy and needs to be stopped and not allowed to spread. We need a statewide uniform standard, no exception.

Please give HB1273 a Do Pass.

Thank you,

Doug Sharbono  
1708 9<sup>th</sup> St S  
Fargo, ND 58103