

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee HB 1446

Chairman Schauer and Committee members:

Let the record reflect my opposition to House Bill 1446 ("HB 1446"). I am writing to you as a resident of ND, currently in district 8. This is where I really got involved in our local government and have served on the executive committee for the past 6 years because I was able to join our district meeting, learned more about how to get involved, and did so. This bill is removing the district residents from the voting process, or grassroots movements and replacing it with money, businesses, and lobbyists.

This bill restricts the choices available to voters. By knowing who was endorsed by the people in the district, it would provide the most valuable information to voters. This relays which candidates have the support, trust, and confidence of their party. Removing this step will reduce transparency, discourage political involvement by the everyday citizens, which makes it more difficult for voters to make informed decisions. I believe taking away this process would be removing our districts right to select its own candidate for a political party.

I completely agree with other testimony in opposition and will restate this as my thoughts exactly... "Grassroots people are an important part to the endorsing process, and this bill would take that away from We the People the way the Constitution was intended." Along with "HB 1446 disenfranchises the very types of citizens who take self-governance the most seriously." I am a perfect example of this.

I strongly request a Do NOT pass recommendation

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely & respectfully,

Lisa Klein