2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Judiciary Committee

Room JW327B, State Capitol

HB 1145 1/14/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 and a new section to chapter 15.1-09 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to displays of the ten commandments in state educational institutions and public schools.

10:15 a.m. Chairman Klemin opened the hearing.

Discussion Topics:

- Supreme Court Lemon Test
- Kennedy vs. Bremerton School District
- Separation of church and state
- Ten Commandments historical value and tradition
- Religious expression in schools
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10:16 a.m. Representative Hoverson introduced the bill, testified in favor and provided verbal testimony.

10:21 a.m. Tim Barton, President of WallBuilders, testified in favor and provided testimony #28880

10:32 a.m. Pat Dean, former North Dakota principal, testified in favor and provided testimony #

10:43 a.m. Janice Lorrah, Attorney/Legislative Counsel for the Pacific Justice Institute - Center for Public Policy, testified in favor and provided testimony #28839

10:54 a.m. Jim Tweeton, Pastor at Cornerstone Baptist Church, testified in favor and provided

11:01 a.m. Michael Rosario, Executive Director of Nevaah's Boxing Ministry, testified in favor and provided verbal testimony.

11:08 a.m. KrisAnn Norby-Jahner, in-house Legal Counsel for the North Dakota School Boards Association, testified in opposition and provided testimony #28710

11:28 a.m. Cody Schuler, Advocacy Manager for the North Dakota American Civil Liberties Union, testified in opposition and provided testimony #28907

11:47 a.m. Olivia Data, North Dakota resident, testified in opposition and provided testimony #

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11:56 a.m. Christopher Scott, Director of Policy, Advocacy, and Research for the North Dakota Student Association, testified in opposition and provided testimony #28898

11:59 a.m. Don Morrison, President of the Board of Trustees of the Bismarck Mandan Unitarian Universalist Church, testified in opposition and provided verbal testimony.

12:03 a.m. Carol Two-Eagle,

12:05 a.m. Chairman Klemin closed the hearing.

Additional written testimony:

Lorrah, Janice York, Angela Brandt, William J. Sagsveen, Murray G. Dingle, Susan M. Hedman, Terri Ackerman, Laura C. Deeg, Gretchen Rice, Daniel Franek, Naomi Fannik, Samanth M. Hess, Julie Anderson, Julie A. Bull, Sylvia Adrianova, Anastassyia Szklarski, Heather M. Costello, Robert Chaffee, Kurt G. Johnson, Phyllis G. Toepke-Floyd, Martin Archuleta, Nick Deufel, Alexandra Walch, Elizabeth Sauer, Marilyn Toepke-Floyd, Tamara Nelson, Kristin Rose, Kristv Kramer, Kolette Halverson, Kimberly R. Streccius, John L. Dykeman, Ellery P. Stuck, Kaaren Dykeman, Denise Benton, Catherine L. Marmon, Mary Delzer, Tammy Cartier. Catherine

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Wisthoff, Tam J. Burke, Jean M. Kuntz, Troy D. Gonzalez, Ciara Krause, Matt Gohrick, Jerol W. Jorritsma, Mark Delzer, Loren

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Wyatt Armstrong, Committee Clerk