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**Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee
69th Legislative Session
Senator Luick - Chair**

Chairman Luick and Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee,

Please accept this testimony in OPPOSITION of HB 1169 version 25.0410.02000 as written and propose amending back to pre-session version 25.0410.01000.

Intent of original bill 25.0410.01000: (see attached: Bill 25.0410.01000 & Amendment)

1. Ensure North Dakota's veterans receive qualified, competent, and accredited representation on their benefit claims.
2. Require claim agents & attorneys to comply with Federal Laws.
3. Provide a penalty.

Allowing unaccredited representation will hurt ND veterans and will only benefit out of state unaccredited claim predators who do not register in ND or answer to any agency in ND.

The ACOVA respectfully requests that the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee amend the current version of HB 1169 to the 25.0410.01000 version and recommend a do pass.

If the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee does not amend, we respectfully request that HB 1169 gets a "DO NOT PASS" recommendation.

Respectfully,

Don R. Herrly, Department Adjutant
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