

March 16, 2025

Senate Industry and Business committee

HB #1398

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

I am submitting my written testimony asking you to approve HB 1398 to restore the publication practice of insurance abstracts that has been followed for 100 years.

My name is Keri Sailer. I am the managing editor of the LaMoure Chronicle. I have been in the newspaper business for 40 years. I believe a newspaper preserves the history of the community/state; it keeps the community/state current on events; and I also believe a newspaper holds governments/public service businesses accountable.

The printing of the insurance abstracts in all newspapers allows readers from across the state to monitor the business of the companies across the United States.

In my 40 years working for a newspaper, yearly we have prepared and published the insurance abstracts distributed to us by North Dakota Newspaper Association.

We take pride in publishing these insurance abstracts, providing an accurate statement of the companies to the public for viewing.

The equal distribution of the insurance legals throughout the newspapers of the State has been going on for over 100 years. The publication of the insurance abstracts has generated revenue for all these years, for all newspapers. Why would you take that revenue away from the 73 newspapers in North Dakota, and give it to only 8 newspapers. That does not seem fair to me.

Please approve HB 1398 to restore the publication practice.

Keri Sailer
Managing Editor
LaMoure Chronicle