



## Sheriff's Department



Robert Roed  
Sheriff

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Chair Larson and members of the committee,

For the record my name is Jason Kraft, I am a Captain at the Ward County Sheriff's Department in Minot, and I am providing testimony in support of HB 1375. My duties include supervising and training our three sworn deputy divisions. I also provide direct assistance to the Sheriff on issues pertaining to operations, policy and personnel.

I'd like to first give some perspective on how things have changed recently and why a change in the law is necessary. In 2022, our department took in 3 fake ID's. In 2024, that number went to 21. Fake identification is low cost and easy to obtain. A simple google search revealed a site where you can purchase an ID of any state for \$120. Order more than one and you get a 20% discount.

So how are these fake identifications being used to exploit our current law? Currently, a person under the age of 21, can use their fake ID to gain entry into an establishment or to get served alcohol. The establishment checks the ID and believes it's valid because these are very convincing fakes. Then, for whatever reason, law enforcement does a walk through of the establishment and observes the same person. Law enforcement approaches the person and asks for an ID. Now, the person says I don't have it on me. They claim the establishment never asked them for ID. They claim they're 21 and provide some information to the officer such as name, date of birth, state of license, etc. They may also say they don't have a license in any state. Now the officer must try and vet out whether the person is less than 21 years old or not. Sometimes that is very difficult to do on scene. So instead of an arrest, the person will likely be told they need to leave. Free to find another establishment to do the same thing.

Section 1 will provide law enforcement an additional tool. With this language, when the person can't provide an ID and we reasonably believe they are under 21 years of age, they can be charged with an infraction. So, what happens if they're actually 21 or over? They simply take their ID to the prosecuting attorney's office and the charge is dismissed. This is the same process that has been used successfully for driving without proof of liability insurance for many years now.

Section 1 is an excellent addition to state law. Please support the passage of this language and I'll be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Jason Kraft, Captain  
Ward County Sheriff's Department