25.0495.01001 Title. Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Senator Braunberger
April 3, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

HOUSE BILL NO. 1297

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 16.1-01 of the North Dakota

Century Code, relating to prohibiting approval voting and ranked-choice voting in elections; and

Introduced by

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Representatives Koppelman, Heilman, Heinert, Kasper, Louser Senators Castaneda, Clemens, Enget, Paulson, Wobbema, Larson

3	to amend and reenact subsection 7 of section 11-09.1-05 and subsection 9 of section				
4	40-05.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Gode, relating to other than home rule powers in				
5	counties	and	citiescity elections.		
6	BE IT E	NAC'	TED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:		
7	SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 7 of section 11-09.1-05 of the North Dakota				
8	Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:				
9	7. Provide for all matters pertaining to county elections, except as to qualifications of				
10	electors and the limitations provided under section 2 of this Act.				
11	SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 16.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created				
12	and enacted as follows:				
13	Approval voting - Ranked-choice voting - Prohibition.				
14	<u>1.</u>	<u>For</u>	purposes of this section:		
15		<u>a.</u>	"Approval voting" means a method in which a qualified elector may vote for all		
16			candidates the voter approves of in each race for public office, and the		
17			candidates receiving the most votes are elected until all necessary seats are		
18			filled in each race.		
19		<u>b.</u>	"Ranked-choice voting" means a method in which a qualified elector may rank		
20			candidates in a race for public office in order of preference, and all submitted		

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1		ballots are tabulated in multiple rounds following the elimination of a candidate		
2	IS	until a single candidate attains a majority of votes.		
3	<u>2.</u>	Approval Except as authorized under subsection 9 of section 40-05.1-06, approval		
4		voting or ranked-choice voting may not be used in an election held within this state to		
5	ř	elect or nominate a candidate to any local, state, or federal elective office.		
6	<u>3.</u>	An ordinance enacted or adopted by a county, city, or other political subdivision,		
7		except a home rule city, including an ordinance enacted or adopted under a county		
8		home rule charter, which conflicts with this section is void.		
9	SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 9 of section 40-05.1-06 of the North Dakota			
10	Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:			
11	9.	To provide for all matters pertaining to city elections, except as to qualifications of		
2		electors and the limitations provided under section 2 of this Act.		