

2025 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 1276

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1276
1/23/2025

Relating to a public-spirited organization's use of raffle proceeds for a political purpose.
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2:05 p.m. Chairman Schauer opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Schauer, Vice Chairman Satrom, Representatives Bahl, Brown, Christy, Grindberg, Karls, McLeod, Rohr, Schneider, Steiner, VanWinkle, Vetter, Wolff

Discussion Topics:

- Use of raffle proceeds by nonprofit organizations
- Limitations on raffle prizes

2:05 p.m. Representative Jared Hendrix, North Dakota Representative for District 10, introduced the bill.

Additional written testimony:

Andrew Bornemann submitted testimony in favor #30867

Delvin Boehm, Chair of the District 33 Republicans, submitted testimony in favor #30932

Doug Shar, North Dakota Citizen, submitted testimony in favor #30975

Matthew Simon, North Dakota Citizen, submitted testimony in favor #30987

Lee Duckworth, West Fargo, North Dakota, submitted testimony in favor #30993

DeAnn Reed, Chair of the District 16 Republicans, submitted testimony in favor #31038

Rob Muntz, Fargo, North Dakota, submitted testimony in favor #31071

2:17 p.m. Chairman Schauer closed the hearing.

Wyatt Armstrong for Jackson Toman, Committee Clerk

HB 1276
Testimony in favor.

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee.

I am writing to you to respectfully request a Do Pass recommendation from this committee on House Bill 1276.

I have been involved in party politics here in North Dakota since 2012, and during that time I have donated quite a bit of time and money to both district and statewide candidates and parties. While I am not normally a gambler, the one thing that I will pull out my checkbook for is a good gun raffle. Of course, I've never actually won anything, but I have been glad to support a good cause. Many district political parties hold annual Gun Raffles as one of their largest sources of funds, including District 8 in which I reside.

House Bill 1276 would guarantee that local political candidates, local political PACs, and local political parties could continue raising funds through raffles as they have been doing for many years. The reason this particular bill is important right now is the fact that Senate Bill 2035 would potentially remove Political organizations from the definition of "Public-spirited organization". SB2035 has already passed the ND Senate this session.

I respectfully request your support of local political parties, and their continued use of a very effective fundraiser which they have been able to use for many years. Please vote for a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Sincerely,

Andrew Bornemann
Kintyre, ND

Testimony in Support of HB1276
House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee
January 23, 2025

Chairman and Members of the House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee,

As the chairman for the District 33 Republicans, I would encourage you to support HB1276. We conducted a raffle this summer as a fundraiser for our district and were encouraged by the participation and comradery that it incentivized among our constituents.

A raffle offers a good way for us to fundraise while giving back to our community and showing people that we understand the value of their money.

There are already laws in place that require disclosure of who will be benefiting from the proceeds, so if a person does not want to support a political party or group, they are free to refrain from buying tickets.

I would encourage you to give this bill a Do Pass recommendation.

Thank you,



Delvin Boehm, Chairman



**Do Pass Testimony
of Doug Sharbono, citizen of North Dakota
on HB1276
in the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota**

Dear Chairman Schauer and members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

I am writing as a citizen and believe HB1276 is needed legislation clarifying the usage of raffles. This legislation codifies the type of organizations that have traditionally used the raffle for political district fundraising. The gun raffle has been extremely popular to this effect, and if restricted, would catch the attention of many 2nd Amendment Rights supporters. These patriotic supporters are right in their mission and beliefs and should have this available avenue to support their 2A beliefs and their chosen political party.

Please give HB1276 a Do Pass.

Thank you,

Doug Sharbono
1708 9th St S
Fargo, ND 58103

January 23, 2025

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
HB 1276

Chairman Schauer and Committee members:

Let the record reflect my support for House Bill 1276 ("HB 1276"), as introduced by Representatives Hendrix, D. Johnston Koppelman, D. Ruby, Bolinske, Henderson, Kasper and Senators Wobbema and Castaneda.

North Dakota Century Code section 53-06.1-03 contains some ambiguity as to what organizations and activities would qualify as a "public-spirited organization". SB 2035, which has passed the Senate as of this testimony, seeks to clarify but unfortunately makes it more likely that raffles held by legislative district organizations would not fall under this definition. I have been involved in local politics for a number of years and have served on the executive committee for District 8 since 2021. Gun raffles are a significant fundraising source for our district to support our endorsed legislators as they are for a number of other districts across the state to whom I have financially contributed via similar raffles. If such raffles are not permitted, campaigns will necessarily be funded via a limited number of high net-worth individuals and political action campaigns.

I respectfully request a "do pass" recommendation from the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee.

Respectfully,

Matthew S. Simon

DO PASS Testimony for HB 1276

January 23, 2025

From Everett Duckworth, citizen of West Fargo, ND

1536 8th ST E

Dear chairman and members of the house government and veterans affairs.

I believe this supports our 2nd amendment rights and is therefore very important to the various organizations that use raffles to help raise money. Independent of your political affiliation, this bill should make clear and codify the use of raffles which have been traditionally used in North Dakota.

Thanks for your consideration !

HB 1276

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Dear Honorable - House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

I would strongly urge you to support and give a do pass to HB 1276. This is a fundamental right of districts to raise money in a manner they see fit. District 16 is a political organization and should be deemed as a “public spirited organization”. Without this designation, districts all over the state that rely on the funding from average citizens through gun raffles would cease. This is a fundamental right of free speech. This is a fundamental right to champion and fund candidates the districts endorse and puts forward on the ballot.

With respect,

Chair: DeAnn Reed
NDGOP D16

Do Pass Testimony of Rob Muntz, citizen of North Dakota on HB1276 in the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

Dear Chairman Schauer and members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

I am writing as a citizen and believe HB1276 is needed legislation clarifying the usage of raffles. This legislation codifies the type of organizations that have traditionally used the raffle for political district fundraising.

Restrictions on these types of fundraisers is essentially infringement of our 1st Amendment rights to participate in the political process within our districts.

Please give HB1276 a Do Pass.

Thank you,

Rob Muntz

6624 27th St S

Fargo, ND

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1276
2/20/2025

Relating to a public-spirited organization's use of raffle proceeds for a political purpose.
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11:26 a.m. Chairman Schauer opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Schauer, Vice Chairman Satrom, Representatives Bahl, Brown, Christy, Grindberg, Karls, McLeod, Rohr, Schneider, Steiner, VanWinkle, Vetter
Members absent: Representative Wolff

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

11:30 a.m. Representative Schneider moved a Do Not Pass.

11:30 a.m. Representative Karls seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Austen Schauer	Y
Representative Bernie Satrom	Y
Representative Landon Bahl	Y
Representative Collette Brown	Y
Representative Karen Grindberg	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Karen Rohr	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Lori VanWinkle	N
Representative Steve Vetter	Y
Representative Christina Wolff	AB

11:32 a.m. Motion passed 11-1-1.

Representative Karls will carry the bill.

11:32 a.m. Chairman Schauer closed the meeting.

Jackson Toman, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1276 ([25.0810.01000](#))

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Schauer, Chairman) recommends
DO NOT PASS (11 YEAS, 1 NAY, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB
1276 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.