House Industry, Business, and Labor Committee House Bill 1429 Andrew Alexis Varvel Written Testimony North Dakota State Capitol January 23, 2023 9:00AM

Chairman Louser and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck, District 47.

I oppose House Bill 1429 on principle. I don't like the idea of the State of North Dakota imposing its ideological commitments onto private corporations. This is a slippery slope which I hope our state won't slide down.

Is "wokeism" in corporate America noxious? Of course.

This legislation is not a good way to deal with it.

And I wonder – why should the State of North Dakota refuse to do business with corporations that boycott energy, mining, firearms, and agricultural sectors – while ignoring the State of California, which has an official policy of boycotting North Dakota tourism for the express purpose of punishing our economy?

Before North Dakota defends cherished industries, it should defend itself.

Thank you, and I welcome questions from the committee.

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