



Verbal Testimony in Opposition to AB117

Hello, I am testifying today on behalf of the Libertarian Party of Nevada. We oppose AB117, and we ask you to vote against its passage.

The definition of “domestic terrorism” codified in this bill is overly broad and jeopardizes civil liberties. It could be interpreted to include certain forms of protest, civil disobedience or speech, and places constitutionally protected activities into a gray area. The supporters of this bill point out that it doesn’t create any new crimes. What it does is to take a range of offenses that are currently misdemeanors and reclassify them as terrorism. That isn’t a good thing.

If a particular activity could be considered a misdemeanor on one hand, and domestic terrorism on the other, then the term “terrorism” has been rendered meaningless. By creating a mandate for these investigations, providing funding for them, and having such an incredibly low bar for what is considered worthy of pursuit, AB117 opens the door to entrapment schemes and harassment of dissidents.

This bill poses a risk to the citizenry by enabling unconstrained investigations into groups or individuals for what would otherwise not be considered serious criminal activity. Imagine that power in the hands of your worst political enemy.

Violence, incitement to violence, and criminal conspiracy are already punishable by law. Misinformation, speech, and misdemeanors are not terrorism. Amendments won’t fix this. The bill creates a platform for political persecution, it is only a matter of time until it is abused.

We ask you to please vote NO on AB117. Thank you for your consideration.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEVADA

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