## NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE FEELS IRE OF CATHOLIC LEAGUE

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on the initial success of efforts to protect religious liberty in North Dakota:

Yesterday, I sent a <u>letter</u> to the North Dakota legislature regarding SB 2180. This legislation would break the seal of the confessional and is nothing more than a direct assault on our faith. However, thanks to the support of our members, the sponsors of this bill have come to feel the ire of the Catholic League, and the viability of the legislation is in peril.

Not long after receiving my letter, one of the North Dakota House co-sponsors, Rep. Michael D. Brandenburg, sent me an email stating he will no longer support the bill and intends to vote against it. Rep. Brandenburg's heroic decision to reverse course and stand with those who support religious liberty delivers a severe blow to this anti-Catholic legislation and harms its ability to become law.

Anyone who has the courage to admit they were wrong and take steps to make things right is worthy of recognition. I would like to thank Rep. Brandenburg for doing just that.

However, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. As we have seen with other attempts to break the seal of the confessional, to truly kill this bill will require sustained pressure on those who would attack our sacraments.

Now is the time to turn up the heat on the remaining sponsors of this legislation, and I would like to ask you to contact the remaining four co-sponsors of this bill:

Sen. Judy Lee - <u>ilee@nd.gov</u>

Sen. Curt Kreun - <a href="mailto:ckreun@nd.gov">ckreun@nd.gov</a>

Sen. Kathy Hogan — <a href="mailto:khogan@nd.gov">khogan@nd.gov</a>

Rep. Mary Schneider — <a href="mschneider@nd.gov">mschneider@nd.gov</a>