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**House Human Services Committee**  
**HB 1492 – 2:30**  
**1-26-2021**

Chairman Weisz and members of the committee, for the record, my name is Mike Schwab, Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Pharmacists Association. We are here today in support of HB 1492.

This bill is short and straightforward. It adds COVID testing as an approved laboratory test, pharmacists can provide in the state.

Pharmacists have and continue to provide COVID antigen and antibody testing. Federal executive orders and a ND Governor executive order have allowed pharmacists to provide COVID testing during this pandemic. We have worked with the ND Department of Health, the State Lab, healthcare facilities, local pharmacies, and other stakeholders to implement the process for pharmacists since this past summer.

Pharmacists have helped provide COVID testing to thousands of asymptomatic North Dakotan patients. The emergency clause is needed in-case current executive orders are lifted prior to August 1, 2021.

Thank you for your time and attention regarding this bill. I would be happy to try and answer any questions. If I do not know the answer, I will find the answer and get back to as soon as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike'.

Mike Schwab  
EVP - NDPhA