

Hello Members of the Senate Government and Veterans Affairs, thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

My name is Jocelyn Backman and I am a Citizen of District 13 (or what people might consider “old” West Fargo”. I am writing IN SUPPORT of SCR 4015 relating to the election and Qualifications of the State Health Officer.

It is my understanding, ND is under the rule of 1 man (when it comes to the health and wellness of our state), and he is an Attorney. What does an Attorney know about health? A pandemic? What is best for the state when it comes to health and wellness? I’ve also heard that the man makes approximately \$12,000 per month to make the decisions for the health and wellness of the citizens of North Dakota. How is this man qualified for that job? I am a nurse, and as it sits right now, I am way more qualified for the job he has than he is being an Attorney.

This position needs to be one that is voted on by the citizens of North Dakota, no different than our Legislators, City Commissioners, County Commissioners, Mayors, etc. We have every right to know who is sitting in that chair dictating how we live our lives. I urge a YES vote on this bill.

Thank you for your time.

Jocelyn Backman

District 13