



NORTH DAKOTA
Nurse Practitioner Association

Written testimony to:

67th Legislative Assembly
Senate Human Service Committee

HB 1465

Chairman Senator Judy Lee and Committee Members

I am Paula Moch, Legislative Liaison for the North Dakota Nurse Practitioner Association (NDNPA). I am also a North Dakota resident. I am writing this written testimony on behalf of the NDNPA. The NDNPA supports HB 1465 as written.

The NDNPA supports legislation that removes barriers for the resident's in North Dakota to access quality healthcare from Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). There are currently 1830 APRNs in North Dakota as of March 7, 2021. If a policy excludes qualified healthcare providers, such as APRNs, licensed under the laws of North Dakota, it is a restriction on a North Dakota residents' right to choose a healthcare provider. This policy exclusion also puts undue burden/hardship on some North Dakota residents.

Restricting a North Dakota resident's right to choose a health care provider is North Dakota often puts undue hardship on North Dakota's most vulnerable residents. 30% of APRNs practice in rural areas (2019 North Dakota Board of Nursing) The APRN can be the only option available in a town or county. An example would be Kidder County ND, population 2466 with the only healthcare clinic in Steele, population of 740 (2019 statistics) that has one provider, an APRN. If a policy eliminates this provider, these residents need to travel outside of their town, county for healthcare. This is only one of many examples of this scenario.

This concludes my written testimony in support of HB 1465 on behalf of the NDNPA. I am happy to answer any questions in writing or via telephone.

Thank you for your time.

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