

Dear Madam Chairman and Members of the Human Services Committee

My name is Michael Greenwood and I am an ophthalmologist at Vance Thompson Vision in West Fargo, ND. We serve patients from all over the state and region who need specialty eyecare and surgery.

Thank you for holding the public hearing on HB 1465 - Patient Freedom of Healthcare Provider Bill.

This bill will allow patients to see the doctors and medical providers that can best serve their needs, regardless of the type of insurance they have. Often times when patients need to see a specialist, they are forced to stay in network and may not see a provider who could deliver the best and most up-to-date care, and may also be forced to travel a great distance to see this provider. If they do choose to go outside of the network, they often have to pay a heavy cost.

This bill aims to help keep healthcare system costs lower and gives patients a choice and a voice when it comes to selecting a provider.

I appreciate your consideration and urge you to vote YES on HB 1465. If you have any questions or would like to talk more, please call me on my cell phone at 701-320-2104.

Thank you
Mike Greenwood