

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Theresia Peterson, and I am writing to urge your support for HB1282, a bill that would require insurance coverage for infertility treatments in North Dakota.

Infertility affects 1 in 6 families, and it's the only medical condition that insurance routinely excludes from coverage. For many, the cost of treatments is financially devastating, preventing families from accessing care that could help them grow. We were quoted \$30,000 out of pocket to be able to have another baby.

This bill is about equity in healthcare. Infertility is not a choice—it's a medical condition, and it should be treated like one. Not only is IVF used for infertility, but it is also used for other medical reasons. We conceived our son via IUI after three years of infertility treatments. However, he was diagnosed with a rare genetic disease, Niemann Pick type C. Which is a life altering disease that takes away all body functions: ability to talk, walk, eat, organ functions, etc. The only way to ensure our future children don't suffer from this life altering disease is to utilize IVF.

Please vote YES on HB1282 to make infertility care accessible and affordable for North Dakota families.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Theresia Peterson
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