

January 27, 2025

Testimony in Support of HB 1282

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Katie Richter, and I am writing in strong support of HB 1282, which seeks to improve insurance coverage for infertility treatments. Infertility is a medical condition that requires the same care and attention as any other health issue, and this bill is crucial in removing unnecessary barriers to accessing essential treatments.

My family has been fortunate to have access to infertility treatment through my employer's insurance plan, which offers a \$20,000 lifetime benefit. Even with this coverage, we still paid nearly \$20,000 out of pocket. The emotional and financial strain of infertility is incredibly challenging, and I can only imagine the devastation felt by individuals and couples who dream of parenthood but are unable to pursue it due to inadequate insurance coverage. It was a relief to know that my insurance benefits allowed me to pursue my dreams of building a family, but many others are not so fortunate.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB 1282 to ensure that all families—especially the 1 in 6 couples facing infertility—have access to the reproductive healthcare they need without being burdened by exorbitant costs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katie Richter', with a stylized, cursive script.

Katie Richter
District 31
Mandan