HB 1282 House Human Services Committee January 29, 2025

Chair Ruby and members of the House Humans Services Committee,

My name is Dr Ana Tobiasz. I am an obstetrician/gynecologist and maternal fetal medicine physician who has practiced in the state since 2017. I am also representing the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists as the ND Section Chair. I am requesting a DO PASS on HB 1282.

Infertility is a health condition that results from a multitude of causes. Infertility is common. It is a health condition much the same as hypertension, diabetes, or cancer. It is not a social condition and individuals do not choose to have infertility. The decision to undergo infertility treatments is not a "lifestyle choice". Involuntary childlessness creates substantial emotional, psychological, and physical distress.

There are few other health conditions that I can think of where individuals receive a medical diagnosis and the evaluation and treatment of their health condition is largely excluded from insurance coverage from both commercial and government payors. The only individuals who currently can receive this necessary medical care are those who have the financial ability to pay for it themselves, or the very few who have any insurance coverage at all. This leaves a large percentage of individuals suffering from a medical condition that cannot afford the medical care required to achieve pregnancy and start a family.

ND promotes itself as a "pro life" and "pro family" state. Improving access to necessary medical care for families to achieve pregnancy and start a family would be a step in the right direction.

I strongly urge a DO PASS on HB 1282.

Dr Ana Tobiasz, MD American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, ND Section Chair Maternal Fetal Medicine Physician