

My name is Marcia Bettenhausen, 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.

Having had my first child with the assistance of fertility treatments, I can tell you the expenses were exorbitant. This bill is about equity in healthcare. Infertility is not a choice—it's a medical condition, and it should be treated like one. Whether medication, IVF, or donor eggs/sperm being used – the costs are significant.

IVF is also used for other medical reasons – to allow families to choose to have healthy children in the face of known potentially inheritable diseases. In this way it is a health prevention measure, striving to provide healthy children without life threatening congenital defects. Please vote YES on HB1282 to make infertility care accessible and affordable for North Dakota families.