

Chairman Ruby and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 1373. My name is Kristin Kramer and I am a registered nurse that has worked in North Dakota for the entirety of my 15 year nursing career. I worked as a labor and delivery nurse for the first 11 years where I witnessed the highest of highs during the delivery of a new baby and sometimes the lowest of lows when tragedy struck. I have now worked in Reproductive Medicine for the last 3 years and again am witness to the highs and lows that come along with fertility treatments. As a mom of two myself, I want nothing more than the women and families we encounter, to also be able to experience the greatest joy in life: to become parents and grow their families.

As medical professionals in the reproductive medicine field, we already see the battles our patients face when they are so desperately trying to achieve their goal of parenthood or expanding their families. HB 1373 only adds to the potential stressors for not only the patient and their decisions in their reproductive rights, but also our clinic as reproductive healthcare providers. Services such as IVF are necessary and need to be available for patients facing infertility. HB 1373 puts our clinic in jeopardy of being able to provide these services in the state of North Dakota.

Please help protect the rights of our patients and the safety of reproductive care in our state. I ask that you give the bill a **Do Not Pass** recommendation.

Thank you,

Kristin Kramer