

Chairman Warrey and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1267. My name is Briana Bohn, and I am an optometrist practicing in Jamestown, ND. I am testifying in favor of this bill, because with advancements in technology, comes the responsibility to protect our patients by defining what telemedicine in optometry means and providing guidance to ensure that access to telemedicine services in rural areas is high-quality and safe. No matter the setting, whether through telemedicine in optometry or in-person care, our patients' eye and vision health remains our greatest priority. As primary eye care providers, we can and should use telemedicine responsibly and when appropriate. House Bill 1267 establishes some important guidelines with regard to patient consent, compliance with laws and regulations, and ultimately with the duty of doctors of optometry to make sure that the care they deliver meets the existing standard of care.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I ask for your support for HB 1267 and I thank you for your time and consideration.