



Senate Human Services Committee

HB 1454

March 11, 2025

Chair Lee and Committee Members, I am Courtney Koebele and represent the North Dakota Medical Association. The North Dakota Medical Association is the professional membership organization for North Dakota physicians, residents, and medical students.

NDMA opposes HB 1454. Ultimately, this legislation could have unintended consequences limiting certain government entities from protecting employees and patients.

- This legislation does not provide an exception to law enforcement (i.e., hepatitis B), the state hospital, veterans homes, and local public health departments.
- This legislation would eliminate administrative rules requiring tattoo artists to have hepatitis B vaccine.
- Extensive research involving thousands of studies and millions of people over decades of work supports the safety of vaccines for most people.
- Community immunity is essential to protecting people who cannot get vaccinated, and the amended bill still weakens vaccine requirements and increases risk of disease outbreaks.

NDMA urges a DO NOT PASS of HB 1454. Thank you for the opportunity to address this committee.