

HB 1034  
69<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
February 18, 2025  
Travis W. Finck, Executive Director, NDCLCI

Madam Chair Larson, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, my name is Travis Finck and I am the Executive Director for the North Dakota Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents. The Commission is the state agency responsible for the delivery of indigent defense services in North Dakota. I rise today on behalf of the Commission to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1034.

The Commission provides representation to indigent parents in termination of parental rights cases in courts in our great state. We were proud to work on this bill with all of those listed in Julie's testimony, and proudly request a do pass recommendation. This bill is the result of an interim study and allows North Dakotans who have had their constitutional rights to parent their children terminated, to have those rights reinstated. The scope of when this extraordinary form of relief is limited in scope and narrowly tailored. Further, this will not create a huge influx of cases as we included a requirement to have a prima facie showing before a full petition would be heard in Court.

For the reasons states herein, the Commission supports HB 1034 and respectfully requests a do pass recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted:



Travis W. Finck  
Executive Director, NDCLCI