

HB 1089
House Human Services Committee
Testimony of the ND Behavioral Health Planning Council
January 18, 2021

Chair Weisz and members of the Committee, I'm Brenda Bergsrud, Chair of the Behavioral Health Planning Council. The Council is a federally mandated body operating out of the ND Department of Human Services/Behavioral Health Division. The Council is made up of 30 diverse members including consumers, family members, and other stakeholders.

The Council supports HB 1089. In particular, the Council believes that patients and residents should be free from aversive reinforcement conditioning; that this should not be an option, or available tool from the toolbox, for treatment or care regardless of consent from the individual or his/her guardian. Aversive reinforcement conditioning subjects the individual to a stimulus, usually uncomfortable and sometimes harmful, when he/she exhibits a particular behavior. It is an archaic.

Please support HB 1089. Thank you.