



NORTH DAKOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Representative Matthew Ruby

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COMMITTEES:

Human Services
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26JAN20

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and committee,

My name is Matt Ruby from District 40. I brought HB 1359 to address concerns patients have with representation and quality. This bill makes 3 changes to current practices. It eliminates the application fee, adds two more caregivers, and it sets membership requirements for the Advisory Board. These changes were concerns brought from patient advocates and were decided upon with input from the Division leader.

The first change would eliminate the application fee of \$50 dollars. Currently the caregiver must apply and pay for a background check. Advocates were concerned with the cost that additional caregivers have to pay, and the Division recommended removing this fee since the amount paid for background checks is nonrefundable.

The second change in the bill expands the number of caregivers a patient can have. These caregivers are able to buy product and dose patients. We rarely if ever only allow 1 parent to handle decisions and medicine distribution. This would allow for 3 to ensure dosing is able to be maintained throughout the day.

Lastly, the final change in 1359 is setting the designations in century code for the Medical Marijuana Advisory committee. Currently century code gives the governor the direction to appoint 6 members without any requirements for membership as well as the state health officer chairing the board. The changes here would give patients, manufacturers and dispensaries equal representation and allow for input and the opportunity to see quality claims and other issues brought to the board. We also add an additional member of the legislature than what is currently on the board to get to an odd number.

I appreciate your consideration for this bill and respectfully ask for a do pass recommendation. I stand for questions.

Rep. Matt Ruby
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