

February 3, 2021

House Human Services Committee

Re: HB 1465

Chairman Weisz and Committee Members:

I am providing written testimony in favor of HB 1465 and am requesting a recommendation of “do pass.”

This is a bill that would require insurance companies to allow for coverage of services to “any willing provider” and does allow for increased access to health care services to the members they serve.

I own a private practice physical therapy clinic in Minot. I have developed relationships with many families and clients throughout the area. These families and clients often seek physical therapy care at my clinic because of relationships and care received at my clinic in the past. However, at times because of the insurances that they have and networks within those insurance companies they are not able to receive care in my physical therapy clinic even though I am willing to provide the physical therapy care they are seeking under the terms of their insurer.

When a physician writes an order for a medication their clients can take that prescription to any pharmacy of their choosing and have that prescription filled. I believe that my clients should have the right to choose physical therapy services at any clinic of their choosing as long as that clinic is willing to provide that service.

HB 1465 will allow residents of North Dakota to seek health care services at the willing provider that they choose. Therefore, I am recommending that you vote in favor of this bill and recommend a “do pass” out of this committee.

Thank you for consideration of my written comments.

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