

Dear Chairman and committee members,

I am writing to you today in opposition of House Bill No. 1469.

Is education required for a patient who declines cortisone injections? Is education required for a patient who declines a hysterectomy? Is education required for a patient who declines a root canal? Is education required for a patient who declines an antibiotic? No. So why, in the “land of the free” would education be required to decline a vaccination? Why would we separate this intervention from the thousands of other available interventions?

Federal law specifically protects individuals from many forms of discrimination in the provision of healthcare services. Why should the patient’s right to choose not be protected in this instance?

The overreach included in the language of this bill opposes everything I was taught to protect as a Registered Nurse. My duty is to advocate for patients and honor their choices. If this education is required by North Dakota law, is my duty as a patient advocate abolished?

Thank you.

Brodi Alt, RN

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