

January 24, 2021

RE: OPPOSE - (HB 1469 - A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 23-07-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to exemptions from vaccine requirements before admission to school; and to provide an appropriation.)

Dear Chairman Weisz and Committee Members: My name is Jennifer Kadrmas and I am a North Dakota resident who resides in district 7.

I am in OPPOSE for HB1469

1. It is the use of coercion (Coercion is the practice of forcing another party to act in an involuntary manner by use of threats or force. It involves a set of various types of forceful actions that violate the free will of an individual to induce a desired response) by forcing a parent to watch a video provided by the state health department before they can be exempted due to reasons parents already had decided on their own.
2. Parents have the right to choose what is best for their family. They have either decided to choose the risk/benefit to not choose to vaccinate or due to ingredients being against their religious beliefs.
3. This is not informed consent as this video's goal is to increase vaccination rates, as this video will be like any other video and increase fear of the said disease and parrot the soundbites of safe and effective.
4. Per the documents **Immunization and Exemption Policies and Practices in North Dakota A Comprehensive Review and Recommendations for Improvement**, page 3 it states "Stakeholders overwhelmingly agreed that the process of obtaining an immunization exemption in the state of North Dakota is too easy and should be strengthened. The most common recommendation to strengthen the current policy was to require science-based immunization education from a healthcare provider or public health nurse for parents requesting a religious or personal belief exemption. This is **COERCION!!!** The whole basis of the Review is to increase vaccine uptake, which is not providing individual family choices. Vaccines can cause injury/death and an individual must have freedom to choose and not be bullied, coerced or pressured.

I hope you have a DO NOT PASS on this bill as it is a direct threat to the parental rights to choose what is best for families.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kadrmas
District 7 resident