Dear Members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

Thank you for holding the public hearing on HB 1465 - Patient Freedom of Healthcare Provider bill. I am a physical therapist, who is a partner in the private practice, Achieve Therapy, in Grand Forks, ND.

HB 1465 will allow families to see the doctors and other medical providers they know and trust, whether they are in an insurance provider network or are outside of their designated network. Patients should always have that choice, and not be forced to go where their insurance designates.

As a private practice owner, trying to navigate continued decreases in reimbursement from insurances to include private and federally funded programming, it is also very difficult to see more of our patients unable to see us, not due to their choice, but rather due to their insurance constraints, thereby further decreasing our ability to keep our heads above water.

This is a common sense bill that helps keep healthcare system costs lower and gives patients who need it the most, the option to determine the best care for themselves and their families.

I appreciate your consideration and urge you to vote YES on HB 1465. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Laurie Holte, PT