

Members of the Joint Technical Corrections Committee,

I respectfully request that you implement prohibitions upon all forms of “mandates” as relates to the COVID-19 vaccines, especially in schools and workplaces.

Informed Consent

When employers mandate a medical procedure as a condition of employment they are at worst practicing medicine, and at best they coercively breach the medical ethic of informed consent¹.

As to any prospective new mandate in a school setting, lawmakers should remember that the first US rollout of the polio vaccine² amongst 200K children triggered 40K polio cases, 200 cases of paralysis, and 10 deaths. New vaccine mandates for school admissions should be implemented solely by our legislature. A body of legislators is more likely to use prudence when adding a new vaccine requirement, assessing disease risk to children against a safety track record established over years, while consulting a diverse set of experts and data.

Prohibiting Employers’ Mandates Is Not Government Overreach into Private Business.

North Dakota law is regularly used to maintain a good business climate that balances the rights of business owners (*a property perspective*) and individuals (*a constitutional rights perspective*). N.D.C.C. provides business law governing discrimination, minimum wages, gender wage parity, rest days, child labor, workplace sanitation, family home care exemptions, collective bargaining, environmental quality, and more.

Business Climate

North Dakota’s business community relies upon high-caliber talent. In recent years North Dakota has switched from an inbound state to an outbound state³. Talent and businesses are on the move in the US, fleeing states whose public/private environments have degraded quality of life and moving to those with the promise of the pursuit of happiness and continued freedoms.

North Dakota should ensure that health care decisions remain a private matter between the patient and their doctor.

Thank you for your consideration.

¹ American Medical Association. (n.d.). *Informed consent*. American Medical Association. Retrieved November 5, 2021, from <https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ethics/informed-consent>.

² Fitzpatrick M. (2006). The Cutter Incident: How America's First Polio Vaccine Led to a Growing Vaccine Crisis. *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, 99(3), 156.

³ Trattner, E. (2021, April 29). *The states Americans are fleeing (and where they're going)*. MoneyWise. Retrieved November 9, 2021, from <https://moneywise.com/life/lifestyle/states-americans-are-fleeing>.