

Good afternoon,

I am writing this testimony regarding both HB1510 and HB1511. My name is Miki Thompson. My family resides in Dickinson, in District 37 currently. I was at the capital yesterday and had the chance to speak to my representatives personally. My husband works in the oilfield, with a subcontractor and has been in the oilfield for many years. He has weathered two booms and busts. The patch here is set to ramp up once again. And with that comes revenue for our state. I urge you to pass a bill that protects our state's hardworking employees, as well as the rights of our hardworking business owners. I understand the ND Petroleum Council is urging the legislature to focus on the spending bills and redistricting bills and bypassing any policy bills regarding mandated vaccines. I find that decision on the council's part to be rash and ill informed, and without any input from the oilfield employees or subcontractor businesses whatsoever. Without these mandate protections, workers will move to states that have already made protecting their workforce and businesses a priority. North Dakota's main source of revenue is oil extraction and production taxes. Without these workers or subcontracting businesses there will be no oil patch. We want North Dakota's oilfield to be the best in the nation. Not only in production, but in the high quality of life and work we provide here. With that being said, I urge you to pass laws protecting our great state's livelihoods. I suggest combining Representative Paulson's HB 1510, and Representative Meier's proposed bill, into Representative Weisz' bill. Offering the strongest protection for years to come. I also recommend the wording changed to ANY vaccine. And shall allow exemptions be changed to must allow exemptions. We also need hiring protections, as well as termination protection. Job security and stability does play a huge role when workers move to a state. Please protect our oilfield and our state's future revenue that the oilfield will yield. I thank you for your time and your service. Please enjoy this beautiful North Dakota fall day.

Thank You,

Miki Thompson

Dickinson, ND