

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1139 --Regarding Birth Certificates

My name is Dr. Melissa Messerly. I am a retired pediatrician who practiced in Minot for over 25 years. I have personally examined thousands of newborn babies and tens of thousands of children over my career in Pediatric Medicine. The sex of the newborn is unmistakably obvious by the appearance and characteristics of the external genitalia. The gold standard of the chromosomal makeup of the child confirms the obvious physical findings in 99% of cases. It is crucial that standards of documentation and care be directed to the vast percentage of clinically normal children.

I am IN SUPPORT of this bill and recommend a DO PASS.