Dear senators, I'm writing this testimony in opposition of HB 1297. By barring trans individuals from having access to amending their birth records, all that is being accomplished is the furthering of discrimination and violence towards trans-individuals. Being able to tell if an individual is trans by their birth record only serves to out the individual, an action that has been proven to increase the rate of discrimination and abuse towards the person in question. To be clear, this helps no one. If the goal is to help trans individuals then putting them in positions that are proven to endanger and discriminate against them and against their will is solely an act of cruelty and not one done with the best interests of the person involved. Ideally, we should be striving to make life better for all the people in the good state of North Dakota, and this bill does not accomplish that. Trans-individuals are already required to have their assigned at birth sex listed on their medical charts, so the argument that this helps to get proper care into the hands of those who need it is wrong. All this would accomplish is to put targets on peoples backs.