

Dear Chair Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to House Bill 1489. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

It is too far reaching to require private institutions to also adhere to regulations the state makes for state funded institutions. My college-aged off spring has chosen not to apply to North Dakota schools because of the bills submitted to the legislature this year.

As I was reading this bill, I didn't support the need to be so specific about male and female only sports, but didn't feel the need to advocate against it, until I read section II. As far as I'm concerned, getting rid of section II is a necessary step! Many of the bills proposed this year assume that you can tell someone's "sex" at birth, which is scientifically fallacious. This bill states that participation in sports is to be based on "chromosomes and endogenous hormone profile at birth." I have no record of my chromosomes and endogenous hormone profile at birth, nor does their exist one for my college-age off spring. This bill, if passed, would result in a slew of lawsuits against the state, costing time and money that North Dakota can ill afford. Section II is not only offensive, but scientifically and legally indefensible.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state

Best regards,

Rev. Michelle Webber