

House Human Services Committee  
SB 2150  
March 14, 2023

Good afternoon, Chair Weisz and members of the Committee. My name is Dr. Ana Tobiasz, MD and I am a Maternal Fetal Medicine physician in Bismarck. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of SB 2150. I am asking the committee to give this bill a Do Pass recommendation.

My medical training and expertise is in caring for women during high risk pregnancies. I was born and raised in Munich, ND and completed my undergraduate and medical school training at the University of North Dakota. After medical school I completed a 4-year residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology followed by a 3-year fellowship training in Maternal Fetal Medicine. I have worked as a maternal fetal medicine specialist in Bismarck since July 2017. I am one of 5 of my specialty throughout the entire state.

I have been a leader in the state for helping to initiate and be involved in programs that would improve quality and safety of obstetric care in this state, including the perinatal quality collaborative, maternal mortality committee, and the ND Medical Association Leadership Council.

While I have concerns about multiple aspects of this law, I support SB 2150 insofar as it is an improvement on the trigger law's restrictions imposed on providing health care to pregnant women.

The SB 2150 amendments eliminate the affirmative defenses in the trigger law. This is a respectable change to minimize the impact these laws will have on practicing physicians who care for pregnant women experiencing medical complications.

The medical exception amendments will allow for the majority of medical emergencies that can occur in pregnancy to be cared for in a timely fashion. This amendment is critical when it comes to getting women and their fetuses safely through pregnancy. This includes women with severe heart conditions, lung conditions, cancer, and complications that arise in pregnancy including preeclampsia (high blood pressure and risk of organ injury in pregnancy), membrane rupture and hundreds of others.

Therefore, I support SB 2150 as amended, adopted and passed by the Senate.

Dr Ana Tobiasz, MD  
Maternal Fetal Medicine Physician