



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1173

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director
North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action
January 16, 2023

Dear Chairman Klemin and honorable members of the House Judiciary Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying in support of House Bill 1173 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill for a number of reasons.

First, on a fundamental level, our state is committed to the protection of life. As it states in Chapter 14-02 of the Century Code, commonly known as the Abortion Control Act:

14-02.1-01. Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to protect unborn human life and maternal health within present constitutional limits. It reaffirms the tradition of the state of North Dakota to protect every human life whether unborn or aged, healthy or sick.

Second, we have a rich history of protecting life in our state. We enacted the commonly called trigger law, the heartbeat bill, the chemical abortion reversal notification law, and many more pro-life laws. Further, the number of abortion clinics in our state has gone from three to zero. North Dakotans are certainly known today as strong advocates for protecting unborn children, and I thank each of you who had a part in that.

Finally, we have other established days for observance of key values that matter to our state’s citizens, such as National North Dakota Day and official days proclaimed by Governor Burgum like National Day of Prayer each May. Why should we not have a day of observance for the most precious of values: life.

For the aforementioned reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you please vote House Bill 1173 out of committee with a “DO PASS” recommendation.