



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony Supporting House Bill 1518

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director
North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action
February 1, 2023

Dear Chairman Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action would like to testify in support of House Bill 1518 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill.

Our organization believes that all people are made in the image of God; to be treasured, nurtured, and protected. For that reason and many others, it’s incumbent upon us as a state to help ensure that those who have been victimized by sexual assault receive proper help and treatment. Their world has been torn apart and we are duty-bound to help them.

House Bill 1518 provides this help. It covers a number of areas, from ensuring that forensic evidence is preserved and that there is appropriate access to records/reports, to making certain an attorney or sexual assault counselor is available to them. Further, we agree with the section of this bill which ensures that the victim should not have to take on the costs of a forensic medical examination. They should not have to pay for evidence collection.

We need to do everything in our power as a state to help people who have been victimized by sexual assault. This bill is another step in the right direction. For these reasons, our organization requests that you render a “DO PASS” on House Bill 1518.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our testimony. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Jorritsma
Executive Director