



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1375

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March 13, 2023

Good afternoon Madam Chair Lee and honorable members of the Senate Human Services Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. We are submitting testimony in support of House Bill 1375 and respectfully request that you issue a “DO PASS” on this bill.

With the overturn of *Roe v. Wade* last year and the hopeful successful defense of our state’s Trigger Law on abortion, expectant mothers will be seeking options other than abortion to address their circumstances. That’s where adoption can come in. It seems appropriate for us to come alongside these new mothers and help them with alternatives to abortion like adoption.

One way to do this is by helping families looking to adopt. Adoption costs can be substantial, so if there is a way for the State of North Dakota to help facilitate the process, all the better. Also, with the total potential outlay associated with this bill being capped at \$262,000, it mitigates a possible increase in the number of ND adoptions and associated costs, post-Roe.

As you know, SB 2230, which is almost identical to this bill, was rendered a 6-0 “DO PASS” recommendation from this committee and then passed the Senate Floor by a 44-0 unanimous vote. Given this history and for the aforementioned reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you issue a “DO PASS” recommendation on HB 1375. With that, I’d be happy to stand for any questions.