Dear Chair Larson and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to Senate Bill 2199. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

The reason for this is that:

Personal: As a laboratory technician, clinical research manager, and currently working in public health – the logistics of this bill is improbable. What structure will ND use to utilize DNA testing? DDC is already over sourced and understaffed. For individuals looking for DNA testing, the system is broken, at best. The structure and logistics required to enforce this bill do not exist. "It does not matter if you are right, if you are not effective"

Additionally, how does this align with the teachings of Christ? Luke 10:30-36 30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii[e] and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

American Psychiatric Association and many other medical experts all agree that transgendered individuals are simply a victim of circumstance, much like the man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. I often wonder if this story was another one of Jesus parables meant to talk to our current society. If you believe the Bible is breathed by the Holy Spirit, you can not deny this considerable connection.

36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

37 **The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."**

Jesus told him, **“Go and do likewise.”**

Conflict with Best Practices: North Dakota has always prided itself on relying on experts in its respective fields. This bill rejects those experts. This bill is a financial, logistical, and personal health conflict.

Organization Impact: This bill impacts every organization to help individuals in the healthcare field. I thought Republican principles focused on less governance, not more. I’m greatly confused why our Republican representatives feel these measures are a part of their mission.

Consequence to ND: Science exists on a spectrum. To say that there is good and bad, right or wrong, is intellectually lazy. Science proved that everything is on a spectrum, a parabola, and more. Pass this bill and ND will look like Alabama before suffrage. Pass this bill and ND will look like the days before women could vote. You don’t have to agree based on your religious values, but you can’t argue with science. This will put North Dakota on the bad side of history and science. This will impact ND’s national market, business prospects and invite future lawsuits.

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

Best regards,

Sarah Irizarry