

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

From: Gabriela Balf, MD, MPH

**Re: In Support of SB 2151**

Dear Chairman Wobbema, esteemed Committee Members,

We are two immigrants, proud to be working in North Dakota and contributing to the well-being of our state as physicians.

We were welcomed in America and helped with various bank loans for a car, house, etc, when we had nothing, we came with two suitcases and our MD diplomas.

We have worked for 25 years in this country, last 10 in ND.

In plain money talk, in 2021 alone, we paid around \$220,000 for federal taxes and around \$20,000 for ND state taxes.

We very happy to see the bill 2151 introduced to help people like us.

Thank you for investing your trust in us,

Gabriela Balf, MD, MPH

Dragos Balf, MD

\*The Manual of International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-11) eliminates the term "transsexualism" and replaces it with the term "Gender Incongruence" (GI)<sup>9</sup>. This new terminology will no longer be part of the chapter on mental disorders (chapter 6) but a new chapter is created (chapter 17) called "conditions related to sexual health".