

Testimony Prepared for the  
**House Human Services Committee**

January 13, 2025

By: Desiree Sorenson, Mountrail McKenzie Human Service Zone Director

**RE: HB1120 Relating to out-of-state child placing agencies and  
revocation of license; and to provide a penalty.**

Chair Ruby, and members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Desiree Sorenson. I am the Director for the Mountrail McKenzie Human Service Zone, which includes the counties of Mountrail and McKenzie. In addition, I serve as Vice-Chair of the North Dakota Human Service Zone Director Association. I also served as a member of the Adoption Redesign team. I am here today to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1120.

Through the adoption redesign process, the Department, human service zones, and key partners gathered to design significant improvements to the adoption process. The adoption redesign process was nimble and was able to be started and implemented since the time the legislature last met. During that time, forms, policies and procedures were all updated. This bill is intended to update North Dakota Century Code language to provide consistency amongst policy, practice, and law. We support the suggested changes and additions presented in HB1120.

Thank you for consideration of my testimony regarding House Bill 1120. I stand for questions from the committee.