

Terri Hedman, 5524 16 Street South, Fargo, ND 58104

Oppose HB 1181

Dear Committee and Chairperson:

As a North Dakota citizen, I am opposed to the amount of time and resources spent on legislation such as this. Concerns with sexual identity promote culture wars but do nothing to help support the health and welfare of the people of North Dakota, in fact, it does the opposite. According to the Trevor Project, young people “are not inherently prone to suicide risk because of their sexual orientation or gender identity but rather placed at higher risk because of how they are **mistreated and stigmatized in society.**”

This bill includes *“If sex, gender, gender identity, or gender expression is contested, determination is established by the individual's DNA.”* We can agree it would be government overreach to demand that a citizen undergo DNA testing. As a registered nurse and a believer in science, I can assure you, DNA alone will not provide a definitive answer to gender or sexual identity.

Please oppose HB 1181

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