

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Theresia Peterson, and I am writing to express my strong support for HB1284, which ensures insurance coverage for fertility preservation in North Dakota.

For individuals facing life-saving medical treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation, or surgeries that may impair fertility, fertility preservation is not optional—it is a critical medical necessity. Without insurance coverage, the high cost of procedures like egg, sperm, or embryo freezing can place this essential care out of reach for many people.

HB1284 is about fairness and compassion. It ensures that individuals undergoing medical treatments are given the chance to protect their future ability to have children. Nobody should have to choose between saving their life and preserving their family-building options.

We conceived our son via IUI after three years of infertility treatments. However, he was diagnosed with a rare genetic disease, Niemann Pick type C. Which is a life altering disease that takes away all body functions: ability to talk, walk, eat, organ functions, etc. The only way to ensure our future children don't suffer from this life altering disease is to utilize IVF.

By supporting HB1284, you can provide hope and security to individuals and families facing some of the toughest moments of their lives. I urge you to vote **YES** on this vital bill.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

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