

February 2, 2025

RE: Opposition to North Dakota House Bill 1373

Chairman Ruby and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kevin Dill, DVM. As a concerned former North Dakota resident of 30+ years, I am sharing my opposition to North Dakota House Bill 1373.

A bill written the way this one is has implications far more dangerous than perceived. The Representative who proposed the bill publicly states that it is an anti-abortion bill, but the exclusions written in the bill do not protect other rights of your state's citizens. The bill has negative impacts to reproductive services, miscarriage management, and necessary medical care during dangerous pregnancies (like life-threatening ectopic pregnancies) or pregnancies of multiples.

My niece is undergoing fertility treatments that this bill will directly affect. She has ova collected and frozen and is awaiting the financial resources for the in-vitro fertilization and then the transfer to a gestational carrier to have the child for her and her husband. The wording of this bill will make any fertilized eggs be considered a human being, regardless of the health of the ova. If there is a genetically abnormal fertilized egg that has no chance of viability, they will be considered murders if they dispose of this embryo. If something occurs during the transfer of the ova that results in it dying, they will be considered murderers, including the medical professionals involved. This bill will have terrible consequences for people who are trying to have a child through medical help.

It is your responsibility to protect the rights of citizens in North Dakota by recommending Do Not Pass on ND House Bill 1373. I passionately urge you to OPPOSE this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration as you decide what is best for the residents of your state.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Dill, DVM

Fargo, ND