

February 2, 2025

RE: Opposition to North Dakota House Bill 1373

Chairman Ruby and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kathleen White. As a concerned North Dakota resident of 43 years, I am writing to express my strong opposition to North Dakota House Bill 1373, which seeks to impose restrictions on reproductive rights in North Dakota.

I am the Mom of Emily Lindquist. If this bill passes, Emily and her husband, Braden, will never hold their baby in their arms. After the loss of SIX babies, the only option they have for a biological child is through IVF and a gestational carrier. If this bill passes, they will NEVER bring a biological child home.

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 our 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.

As a concern citizen and Mom, I believe this bill undermines the fundamental rights of individuals to make personal decisions about their reproductive health and freedom. The government shouldn't be able to decide these things as law because situations impacted aren't black and white. The state should NOT have greater authority over personal, medical decisions that must remain between a woman and her healthcare provider.

It is crucial that we protect the right of women to make decisions regarding their reproductive health in a way that is free from political interference. Our state should be a place where individuals are empowered to make their own healthcare decisions without the fear of unnecessary governmental intrusion.

It is your responsibility to protect the rights of citizens in North Dakota, and help Emily and Braden bring their baby home, by recommending Do Not Pass on ND House Bill 1373.

Thank you for your time and consideration as you decide what is best for North Dakota.

Respectfully,
Kathleen White
Minot, ND