

HB 1373

Chair Ruby and members of the committee,

I am urging you to pass HB 1373 naming an unborn child as a human being here in North Dakota. Recently 125 House Republicans, including Speaker Mike Johnson, signed on to the Life at Conception Act, which states that the definition of human being includes humans at the point of fertilization. Because science has shown life begins at conception, HB 1373 should be passed.

I have heard many arguments against this bill by some who say it will limit the use of IVF. But IVF and the destruction of embryos too often go hand in hand. I believe North Dakota should follow in Alabamas footsteps and pass a similar ruling (which didnt ban IVF but rather ruled that embryos are human beings with a right to life) and thus has halted IVF in the state. Unrestricted access to IVF has resulted in the destruction, abandonment, and indefinite freezing of millions of embryos(human beings) over the past several decades. Most people dont know about this subject at all.

Most IVF procedures include the creation of several embryos, a eugenics process of testing them for gender and abnormalities, and indefinite cryopreservation. Usually, more embryos are created than the parents intend to transfer. The rest are often discarded. Many times, more embryos are transferred than the parents would like to carry, because the risk that these embryos will die while being transferred is so high. But if, say, all 4 embryos successfully transfer and implant, doctors will recommend a selective reduction, where 1 or more babies are aborted while their siblings get to live.

(<https://lozierinstitute.org/ivf-industry-regulation-in-the-united-states-changes-are-needed-to-protect-embryonic-children-and-their-families/>)

Few consider the ethics of this from the embryos perspective.

America is the Wild West of reproduction. Most countries have much better regulations surrounding IVF. In Italy, freezing embryos is almost entirely prohibited the transfer must be immediate. In most of the EU, there is a limit to how many embryos can be created. The same is true of Australia and New Zealand. Dont get me started on sperm donation here in the USA, where one man can father hundreds of children! We can do much, much better than what we do in America today, which is to completely and totally neglect the rights of the tiny humans were creating. (<https://lozierinstitute.org/the-treatment-of-human-embryos-created-through-ivf-the-u-s-and-15-selected-countries-regulations/>)

We as Republicans are hypocrites, which may be worse in this case than Democrats, who are simply open about their support of destroying babies. And I get it. Its a politically unpopular subject. Would you vote against this bill to save your own political ambitions at the cost of dehumanizing the most fragile among us?

Babies have a right to life. Period.

Lydia Easling

District 4