

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 1373, which seeks to redefine the legal status of an "unborn child" in the North Dakota Century Code. This bill poses significant legal, medical, and ethical concerns that would have far-reaching consequences for reproductive rights, personal medical decisions, and the broader legal landscape in our state.

By expanding the definition of "human being" and "person" to include an unborn child from the moment of fertilization, HB 1373 could criminalize essential reproductive healthcare, create legal ambiguity for medical professionals, and limit access to necessary medical treatments. The bill also raises concerns about its potential impact on cases involving in-vitro fertilization (IVF), miscarriage management, and critical healthcare interventions for pregnant individuals.

Additionally, this legislation may pave the way for extreme legal consequences, including wrongful prosecution of women and healthcare providers, further restricting medical autonomy and bodily integrity. Laws of this nature have been shown to disproportionately affect marginalized communities and those facing medical emergencies.

I urge you to oppose HB 1373 and to instead advocate for policies that protect reproductive healthcare, ensure medical decisions remain between individuals and their doctors, and uphold the constitutional rights of North Dakotans. Please stand against this harmful legislation and support efforts that prioritize healthcare access, individual freedoms, and medical integrity.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your leadership and commitment to serving the people of North Dakota.

Kind regards,

Amanda Baker