

Hello, Representatives and Senators of North Dakota,

I've been made aware of a bill introduced that, in my belief, is an attack on the women of North Dakota; a threat to the lives, freedoms, and safety North Dakotan women, a waste of government resources, and a distraction from both the real issues Americans and North Dakotans face, and the complete inability of the ruling party to properly govern.

Specifically:

- HB 1373, relating to the definition of human being and person as the terms relate to the offenses of murder and assault, and civil actions for death caused by wrongful actions.

This bill is unreasonable in its entirety. Namely, a fetus is not even viable outside the human body until around 24 weeks of gestation, and even then it is not guaranteed it will survive. With that being said, it can not be considered a living human being/person if it cannot survive outside the mother's body. Further, I hardly think it is the North Dakotan government's business to be determining what health care procedures women are allowed to seek. It is clear this bill is being used for nefarious purposes, to allow the government to control women's bodies, and to further a religious agenda that should be kept out of the government.

I am unsure how an unborn fetus is considered more important than an actual living human - as can be noted by the inclusion that one of the only exceptions is if there are "reasonable" attempts to save the fetus as well as the impregnated human's life, if necessary.

The bill is vague and, more importantly, incredibly harmful and insidious. I am extremely in opposition to this.

There are much more important problems facing the American people than the personhood of unborn children as dictated by a religion not all Americans follow, and concerns driven solely by a congressperson's adherence to that faith has no place in the halls of governance, while the same members proposing these laws sit on the sidelines, complicit in the slow death of American democracy.