

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I am writing today to express my strong opposition to HB 1373. The vague language used to write this bill leaves too much room for interpretation. Although the bill creators claim that the bill was intended to prevent abortion, further research into the bill's author and those writing in favor claiming to be "abolitionists", clearly shows that this bill was intended as an anti-IVF bill. Many who support this bill claim that they don't want to ban IVF. However, the ramifications that would follow a pass of this bill are disastrous. Medical professionals could be held liable for homicide if an embryo stops growing prior to the blastocyst stage or if a transfer of an embryo does not result in pregnancy. What Reproductive Endocrinologist would want to work in North Dakota given that information? If this bill passes, your 1 in 6 seeking infertility treatment would likely have to seek treatment out of state incurring even more financial burden. For those who are lucky enough to have a fertility benefit, it would now be minuscule as all charges would be considered out of network.

Nobody cares more about their embryos than an IVF mother. I am an IVF mom of two earthside daughters Eden and Estella but also a mother to my 3 angel embryos, 2 of which I was lucky enough to carry for 7 and 15 weeks. IVF is the most heartbreaking and lonely journey that I have lived through. A struggle that I didn't choose. Now, I am having to fight for my right to access reproductive assistance due to the introduction of this personhood bill. I have 3 remaining euploid (genetically normal) embryos. If I am lucky enough to have three successful transfers, I can't wait until the day I get to welcome these babies into the world. I am urging you to give HB 1373 a **DO NOT PASS** so I can have that opportunity.

Thank you,

Margaret Prozinski