

February 4, 2025

Chair Ruby & Members of the House Human Services Committee,

Hello, my name is Cody Long. I am a resident of Plaza, ND.

I am submitting testimony to **in opposition to HB1373**.

HB1373 reeks of religious overreach into the dominion of oneself and household. If this bill passes, the fundamental notion of the separation of church and state, what this country was founded on, will be a farce. This propagation of medically short sighted, ill-informed bodies of government needing to redefine what it is to be human to push a political agenda is a dangerous encroachment on one's reproductive rights.

If select individuals wish to hold the belief "synonym for faith or belief without fact" that a human being begins at the mere moment a spermatozoon meets an ovum, let them believe as such on an individual level. I ask you, please do not let them impose their beliefs on anyone other than themselves.

If select individuals feel the absolute need to redefine what it is to be human, let them pursue this noble endeavor through science, not government.

It is a dangerous game one plays when redefining words in the attempt to appeal to religion. History has many lessons in which defining words such as one's person or human quickly led to a noose of government control.

**Do NOT pass HB1373.**

Sincerely,

Cody Long

District 4A