

2/4/2025

RE: Opposition to North Dakota House Bill 1373

Chairman Ruby and Members of the Committee;

My name is Lisa Hanson. As a concerned former North Dakota resident of 12 years, I am sharing my opposition to North Dakota House Bill 1373.

My niece and her husband have been trying to have a baby for several years now. Unfortunately, this is something they will never be able to accomplish on their own. They have suffered the loss of SIX of their children so far and have gone to many specialists, in and outside of the state, to receive the same message; they will never naturally have their own children. They have opted for the next best thing, which for them is to have a surrogate carry their natural child. This is a form of IVF as both her eggs and his sperm have had to be harvested. Under North Dakota House Bill 1373, this process would be impossible due to the loss of fertilized eggs in the process. (please read the details of the bill)

As expected, a personhood bill such as HB 1373 has gotten a lot of attention in North Dakota and outside of your state. A bill written the way this one is has implications far more dangerous than perceived. The Representative who proposed the bill publicly stated that it is an anti-abortion bill, but the exclusions written in the bill do not protect other rights of your state's citizens. The bill has negative impacts to reproductive services, miscarriage management, and necessary medical care during dangerous pregnancies (like life-threatening ectopic pregnancies) or pregnancies of multiples.

It is your responsibility to protect the rights of citizens in North Dakota by recommending Do Not Pass on ND House Bill 1373.

Thank you for your time and consideration as you decide what is best for the citizens of your state.

Respectfully,

Lisa Dill Hanson

Red Wing, MN