

Members of the House Human Services Committee,

Thank you for considering my testimony regarding HB 1373. In addition to privacy and freedom concerns, many North Dakotans, especially young professionals such as myself, are simply tired of state lawmakers debating laws like this. We'd prefer our leaders address the real needs of working families, students, and elders in our community.

Further, extreme abortion bans and personhood bills like these deter healthcare providers from moving to and staying in our state. I urge a Do Not Pass recommendation on HB 1373.

“Longstanding issues of access to prenatal and maternal care in rural areas have been exacerbated by the state’s abortion ban, a move some obstetricians say has put them on edge over potential legal concerns arising from a termination of pregnancy.” - OB-GYN fears, maternity deserts impact health care in North Dakota, North Dakota News Coop, 3 September 2024. <https://www.newscoopnd.org/ob-gyn-fears-maternity-deserts-impact-health-care-in-north-dakota>

Sincerely,
Olivia Schloegel
Jamestown, ND