



House Human Services Committee

HB 1391

February 4, 2025

Chairman Ruby and Committee Members, I'm Courtney Koebele and I serve as executive director of the North Dakota Medical Association. The North Dakota Medical Association is the professional membership organization for North Dakota physicians, residents, and medical students. NDMA opposes HB 1391 for the following reasons:

- This legislation restricts businesses' rights and freedoms to protect their employees, customers, and economic success from vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Healthcare institutions, group homes, and nursing/rehabilitation centers caring for patients would be unable to quickly and adequately enforce vaccine requirements.
- Educational institutions could not enforce vaccine requirements, undermining existing school requirements that have kept students and teachers safe for decades.
- Generally, there is caution in expanding protected classes around discrimination regarding other areas of the law. Yet, this bill does exactly that, creating a new protected class around the unvaccinated.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this committee. I would be happy to answer any questions.