House Bill No 1457 Testimony against the bill.

Honorable Members of the Senate Hearing Committee,

I am writing to you as a concerned healthcare professional regarding the discussion surrounding vaccination mandates. It is vital to recognize that vaccines are instrumental in preventing and reducing the severity of various diseases. Historical evidence has shown that vaccines have successfully eradicated devastating illnesses such as polio and smallpox.

In environments such as schools, colleges, universities, and workplaces, it is crucial to ensure vaccination without exception. We have observed the efficacy of vaccination mandates during the COVID-19 pandemic, which significantly curbed the spread of the virus and prevented severe illnesses. This serves as a testament to the effectiveness of timely vaccination and policy enforcement.

The flu continues to claim thousands of lives annually. Vaccination greatly reduces disease severity, thus protecting vulnerable populations, including children, pregnant women, and infants. Failing to vaccinate can result in preventable diseases causing undue harm to these groups.

We, as healthcare professionals, strongly oppose any proposal that weakens vaccination requirements. Instead, we advocate for more robust mandates at the state level to safeguard public health. Abandoning or reducing these measures could reverse the progress made in controlling preventable diseases.

Your leadership and commitment to public health are crucial in maintaining and strengthening these vital vaccination policies for the safety and well-being of our communities.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Faisal Siddiqui MD, FAAP Neonatal ICU Medical Director CHI St.Alexius Hospital Bismarck ND.