



2025 HB 1457

House Human Services Committee

Representative Matthew Ruby, Chairman

February 4, 2025

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Tim Blasl, President of the North Dakota Hospital Association. I am here to testify in opposition to House Bill 1457. I ask that you give this bill a **Do Not Pass** recommendation.

This bill aims to create a new section to Chapter 23-12 of the North Dakota Century Code that requires the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) to publicize an exemption for vaccines that do not meet the defined criteria in the bill.

Hospitals oppose this proposed legislation because it would reduce vaccination requirements.

North Dakota already allows for three types of immunization exemptions: medical, religious, or philosophical vaccine exemptions. So, this bill would be unnecessary due to this fact. Another unnecessary aspect of this bill is the requirement of the NDHHS to post vaccine injuries and the rates. The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) already tracks this type of data. A link to the data appears on the NDHHS website. Also, there are programs like the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program which were designed to address compensation for individuals injured by vaccines.

The proposed legislation attempts to solve a problem that does not exist. We ask that you give the bill a **Do Not Pass** recommendation.

I would be happy to respond to any questions you may have. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Blasl, President
North Dakota Hospital Association