I am writing to express my strong support for HB 1477, which seeks to protect access to fertility treatments in our state. As someone who has personally navigated the emotional and physical challenges of infertility, I believe that this bill is crucial to ensuring that individuals and couples who face similar struggles have the support and resources they need to build their families.

For over four and a half years, my husband and I went through a wide range of fertility treatments in hopes of achieving pregnancy. We underwent seven cycles of IUIs, and during that time, I gained an intimate understanding of how essential access to affordable and comprehensive fertility care is.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 12% of women aged 15-44 years in the United States experience infertility, which translates to about 1 in 8 women in this age group. These statistics highlight how common infertility is and underscore the importance of making sure that individuals have access to the care and treatments they need. For many, fertility treatments are not a choice – they are a medical necessity.

I deeply appreciate the opportunity that I had to access fertility treatments and am grateful for the advancements in medical science that make it possible for people to become parents. By supporting HB 1477, you are standing up for countless families like mine who rely on these critical services.

Please know that I am in full support of this bill and encourage you to vote in favor of its passage. Protecting access to fertility treatments is not just about medical care – it's about giving families the opportunity to grow and thrive.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Erin Price Bismarck, ND