I am writing this testimony as <u>support for HB 1477.</u>

I am a nurse practitioner at the only IVF fertility clinic in North Dakota. The patients I care for require fertility treatment to make their dreams of having children come true. Without the ability to access this care in ND, many of our patients would be forced to seek care outside of our state, adding additional burdens such as time, travel, and cost into an already stressful process. As someone who has worked in this field for nearly a decade, I strongly encourage you to support HB1477 so that we can continue to provide care to our patients. Infertility is a medical diagnosis, and North Dakotans should have access to treatment of this medical disease. We care strongly for the women and men of our state, and for the 1 in 6 couples that battle infertility. Please take this opportunity to show your support for your friends, family, coworkers and the citizens of your state to access these services by passing HB1477.

Sincerely,

Amanda Helmer