

Written Testimony of Diana Slivensky PhD, LP

Chairman Ruby and Members of the Committee,

I am writing this testimony as support for HB 1477.

I am a psychologist at the only IVF fertility clinic in North Dakota. I have lived in Fargo, ND for 7 years and lived in Grand Forks, ND while pursuing my doctorate at the University of North Dakota. I directly work with patients who are working to create a family. As someone with firsthand experience and specialized training in reproductive psychology, 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.

I not only offer my support as a healthcare professional, but also as a mother. As an individual who decided to pursue an advanced degree (PhD) and delay family building, my husband and I struggled with infertility. We had to seek out reproductive medical care to aid in our family building. We cannot imagine what our lives would be like without our sweet son, Robbie.

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,
Diana R. Slivensky
Licensed Psychologist
Sanford Health