

Dear Chairman Ruby and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support of HB1477 protecting IVF treatment. I am the Vice President of Operations at Sanford Health overseeing the Women's Service Line in Fargo, North Dakota. We offer reproductive services at the only IVF fertility clinic in North Dakota. Our teams care for thousands of patients each year and ensuring that fertility treatments remain accessible and affordable for those who need these services in North Dakota is important. One in six people experience the disease of infertility and although not every individual requires IVF treatment to conceive, over 3% of all babies born in the United States each year are conceived with the use of IVF. I was born and raised in rural North Dakota and recently moved back two years ago to raise my children in this great state. As a leader in the healthcare industry and someone who has personally struggled with fertility challenges, I strongly encourage you to support HB1477 to allow families who live in North Dakota to receive care in North Dakota.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Ashley Erickson