

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1595

1/31/2025

Dear Chairperson and Members of the House Human Services Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support of House Bill 1595, because every woman facing an unplanned pregnancy deserves truth, dignity, and real medical care—not deception and misinformation.

Pregnancy is one of the most vulnerable moments in a person's life. Imagine a young woman—perhaps a teenager, perhaps a mother already struggling to provide for the children she has—walking into a pregnancy resource center, trusting that the people there will give her honest, professional guidance. Instead, she is met with false medical claims, pressure, and deliberate withholding of information. She may be led to believe she has more time to make a decision than she actually does. She may be told outright falsehoods about abortion, adoption, or even the risks of childbirth. She may be shamed for even asking about her full range of options.

This is not health care. This is not help. And yet, these centers—many of which receive our taxpayer dollars—continue to operate in the shadows, unchecked, unregulated, and unaccountable.

House Bill 1595 ensures that pregnancy resource centers receiving public funding are held to the same basic standards we expect from any legitimate medical provider. It does not shut down these centers. It does not force them to provide services they disagree with. It simply asks them to be honest, professional, and medically responsible.

- If a center claims to offer medical services, a licensed medical professional should be present.
- If ultrasounds are performed, they should be conducted and explained by trained professionals, not unlicensed volunteers.
- If counseling is offered, it should be based on medical facts—not ideology.

This bill is not about politics. It is about protecting women from harm.

I urge this committee to put patients before politics. Women in North Dakota deserve to walk into a pregnancy resource center knowing that they will be met with truth, respect, and real medical care. We owe them transparency, honesty, and safety.

House Bill 1595 ensures just that. I respectfully urge a Do Pass recommendation.

Thank you.

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