HB 1595 Human Services Committee 69th Legislative Assembly

Honorable Members of the Human Services Committee, my name is Dr. Erica Hofland. I am a practicing Obstetrician Gynecologist in Dickinson and I am writing asking for your support for HB 1595.

House Bill 1595 helps ensure the state of North Dakota supports health care delivery in a way that is medically accurate and comprehensive. When a pregnant individual seeks out medical care they may not be aware that they could be given different or less information depending upon where they present for care. This unfortunately is the case in many pregnancy resource clinics. Websites, reception areas, and providers themselves associated with pregnancy resource clinics will not advertise what information they withhold. Patients have a right to full, comprehensive medical information about their health and options to manage their health conditions including pregnancy. Patients should feel confident and trust they have access to this full spectrum of care on their first encounter. Financially supporting institutions that do not provide comprehensive care is unethical and also a poor utilization of limited health care dollars. Patients will need to seek out additional appointments and evaluations to manage their concerns, wasting not only their time but the funds that have been appropriated to these clinics. HB 1595 will hold clinics to the medical standard of care and also ensures the state is financially responsible with its resources.

I strongly urge this committee and the Legislature to support HB 1595.

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