

Testimony on HB 1283 – January 27, 2025

House IBL Committee by Rep. Karen Karls, District 35 - Bismarck

This is a bill for Women's Health and 1% of men also have breast cancer, so this legislation would include their screening, if necessary, at no cost share. It is a bill to expand screening tests at no cost share.

Currently, an initial screening (a mammogram), which is utilized for average-risk women is at no cost share.

This legislation ensures that a patient who needs follow-up or supplemental breast imaging, to rule out or confirm the need for a biopsy, or those at high-risk, based on personal or family medical history, are not forced to forego these medically necessary services due to high out-of-pocket costs.

This is not an insurance coverage bill, because all breast screening tests are included in the Essential Health Benefits plan, and insurance plans currently, this is a cost-share bill.

Cost is often prohibitive and delayed diagnosis can lead to advanced and even metastatic cancer (Metastatic breast cancer is an advanced stage of breast cancer where tumor cells have spread to other parts of the body)

Early detection, results in better outcomes, cost savings and fewer treatments.

Please support this life-saving bill. I'd like to introduce my constituent Bobbie Will who asked me to sponsor HB1283. Bobbie is State Policy & Advocacy Manager in MT, ND, SD and WY for Susan B Komen.