

Testimony
House Bill No. 1503
House Department of Transportation
February 5, 2025

Chairman Dan Ruby and members of the Department of Transportation Committee,

My name is Baelee Reiter and I am writing you to support House Bill 1503. On July 31, 2013 I was 23 years old with 2 children , a 2 year old and 3 month old. We were walking back to our car from the enduro race at the fair when I was ran over by a drunk driver in the crosswalk. I thank God it was me and not my children. I suffered from broken bones, concussion, shattered jaw, stitches and contusions. I had multiple surgeries, therapies, and dental work. That was just initially. Now 10 years down the road I suffer from neurological , spine, neck, and joint issues. My career is being cut short because my body cant do it from the damage that was done.

The man who did this to me served 3 years. Since he was released he has been in and out of jail continuously committing crimes. 38 counts to be exact. Under North Dakota law the maximum serving time is 5 years. This is not enough. If the crimes committed do not require a longer sentencing , criminals will continue to drink and drive. So many victims are sentenced with a lifetime of challenges that they did not deserve. The state could and should increase punishment on these crimes. Thank you for your time.