

HB 1306 Testimony
Human Services Committee
January 19, 2021 2:45 p.m.

Good afternoon, Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services Committee. My name is Kylie Hall, and I am here to testify in opposition to this bill. I have a Master's Degree in Public Health and have worked at the North Dakota State University Center for Immunization Research and Education for the past 5 and 1/2 years. I would like to make clear that my comments today are not on behalf of NDSU.

The studies on vaccines and autism have been done. We've looked at vaccines and any relationship they may have to SIDS. The studies tell us there is no association between vaccines and autism and vaccines do not cause SIDS. We need to stop putting time and energy into a question that has been answered, and as a society, we need to refocus. We are learning more about autism and its causes every day, but there's more to learn. Let's study that. We are also learning more about SIDS, its causes, and ways to prevent it. Let's keep moving this initiative forward, too.

As a ND taxpayer, I encourage you to oppose this bill. Instead of using taxpayer dollars to fund this study, I would like to see our state legislature act to support those with autism spectrum disorder and support programs that are proven to reduce SIDS, like programs that promote safe sleeping practices.

Thank you.