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Ashley Olson
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ND House Human Services Committee

I am a designated caregiver for my son, Drasyn. He has successfully weaned off several pharmaceuticals with the assistance of medical cannabis.

The single caregiver limit has made life extremely difficult for me to be the best mother I can be for all 3 of my children, one being on the spectrum. It has taken away from me being present for so many events as I need to always be near incase Drasyn needs to be dosed. We already had to alter my work schedule, pushing my start time to 8:30, that way I can dose Drasyn right before school starts in hopes that it gets him through the day to prevent me from leaving work to go dose him at school.

In the summer I work very early in the morning and I have to wake Drasyn at 5:30 am to dose him before I leave the house because our respite staff cannot give it to him when he wakes. I work in a different town than I live and if I need to travel to Fargo for groceries I have to backtrack 15 miles to dose Drasyn at home and the head back in the direction I just came from.

I have no problem being the only person to purchase his medicine, but it's so frustrating that his own father can be home with him and fully capable to dose him but I have to leave wherever I am at to drive home to administer it.

Medical cannabis has blessed our family. Others should have the same chance that Drasyn did, regardless of where they live or how capable they are.

I ask for a do pass recommendation on HB 1359, with the amendment that increases the caregiver limit for minors and dependent individuals to 5.

Thank you,

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