

HB 1468: YES, SUPPORT

Chairman Weisz and the House Human Services Committee;

My name is Whitney Jeske, a resident of McKenzie County, ND. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of HB 1468. As a Registered Nurse with the state of North Dakota let me first say that I am not anti-vax. I am pro-vaccine safety. I am pro-informed consent. I am appalled by the standard of informed consent I've personally experienced with my three small children in regards to vaccination. In visits with our former pediatrician, I had asked for the vaccine inserts, only to be given a simple, single paged guide. When correcting the nurse I was told "I'm not sure I can give you that. Let me check." This is not ok! This information should be readily available and disclosed. Parents should not have to demand this. If it weren't for my medical background, I would have blindly accepted the typically given risks of fever and redness/swelling at the injection site. Professionals know better, and they must do better. They must be held accountable. Where there is a risk, there must be a choice. No two children are the same and if an informed decision is to be made, one needs the truth. If a parent does not feel comfortable with the typical guidelines for vaccination, options for exemption should also be made known immediately. Again, I support HB 1468.