

Greetings, my name is Jessica Kuntz, and I am submitting testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION to HB1469, which would place requirements on parents who are claiming philosophical or religious vaccination exemptions for their children, regardless of where they attend school (public, private, or homeschool). My reasons for this are:

A religious or philosophical exemption is personal and private. The state of North Dakota, particularly the Department of Health, has no place stepping in and dictating how a parent uses such an exemption.

Homeschooling parents, such as myself, should not be required to submit vaccination status of their children in the first place. Many parents who have filed for such exemptions have done so after exhaustive research. The decision to vaccinate or not vaccinate our children based on the research we have done should be left up to the parents. The government does not belong in my medical, religious, or philosophical decisions.

State-produced online modules about vaccination will not be able to tell parents what they have not already heard many times before. It will not be effective, and will be a complete waste of energy, resources, and taxpayer dollars. These parents are essentially going to view this as a paid advertisement for the pharmaceutical industry, and nothing more.

Again, I ask that you give a “Do Not Pass” recommendation on HB1469. Thank you for reading!