

Senate Human Services Committee

March 29, 2021

Committee Members,

Testimony in opposition to bill,

My name is Dr Gregory Evanoff. I have been a dentist in Minot for 37 years and a Board of Dental Examiners member for nine years. I have been the Complaint Committee Chair for seven years. My testimony is obviously against removing the current Board of Dental Examiners. There are two areas I want to concentrate on.

The first is the process involved in making such a serious change. It seems to me that the committee is trying to make this change without proper notice and normal procedures to get relevant information both to and from the parties this will affect. If these changes are warranted there must be information the committee has that should be made public. The Board Members you are removing and the public they are serving deserve to know your reasoning. I would like to see the underlying information so that I could respond. Our Board does all of our work at open meetings. Our meetings are all noticed and open to the public. Any legislators that have concerns can attend the meetings and participate. They could express their concerns and try to effect change. Obviously, that is not the way your committee works. Trying to smear us by inuendo is not fair or honorable. I think our Board has operated openly and fairly on all matters brought before us. We are focused on one thing, the safety of the citizens of North Dakota.

The second is the results that will result if you pass this bill. It takes a new member at least a year to get an understanding of how the board operates and feel confident in taking more leadership on the board. We depend on the executive director to make it work. There is not a dentist in the state who has not been on the board, that can step into a member position and have any idea what to do. This will make it a nightmare for the citizens with complaints or concerns that need to be addressed. Who will update the website, balance the budget and all the necessary things the executive director does to make the system work. I do not know how the committee could want these results for the dental providers or the patients of North Dakota.

I urge the members of the committee to vote do not pass.

Sincerely,

Dr Gregory Evanoff

Past President and current member of Board of Dental Examiners