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January 20, 2021

Chair Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee:

I am writing today on behalf of the North Dakota Nurses Association. We are in support of SB 2179, a bill relating to health insurance coverage of telehealth.

The mission of the NDNA is to advance the nursing profession by promoting professional development of nurses, fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the safety and well-being of nurses in the workplace, and by advocating on health care issues affecting nurses and the public. We know that telehealth can reduce the pressure on healthcare systems and therefore, the public, by minimizing patient demand on facilities and healthcare providers.

From the American Nurses Association *Core Principles on Connected Health* (telehealth) (2019), “the use of connected health technologies does not alter the standards of professional practice when delivering healthcare, conducting research, or providing education.” It is vital to maintain continuity of care and avoid additional potential patient issues from delayed preventive, chronic, or routine care. It can allow for long-distance patient and clinician contact, care, advice, reminders, education, intervention, monitoring, and remote admissions.

We support SB 2179 and ask that you pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Sherri Miller, BS, BSN, RN

[director@ndna.org](mailto:director@ndna.org)

Executive Director

North Dakota Nurses Association

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