

**House Human Services
Rep. Robin Weisz, Chair
Jan. 9, 2023
HB 1028**

Good afternoon, Chairman Weisz and members of the committee. My name is Marnie Walth and I serve as Head of Government Relations for Sanford Health in North Dakota.

Thank you for your interest in supporting a community health worker workforce in North Dakota. As you know, the healthcare industry is struggling with workforce challenges perhaps more so than any other industry due to stress and burnout. We view CHWs as an important step in creating a much-needed healthcare workforce ladder.

Sanford's experience with community health workers has been extremely positive. Our CHWs meet patients where they are to help them navigate the healthcare system and connect to needed community services.

Sanford Health supports the creation of a public-private community health worker task force and would eagerly participate if asked.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have questions.

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