

Good morning Chairman Ruby, Vice Chair Frelich, and all members of the Human Services Committee.

For the Record, My name is Donna Henderson, Representative from District 15, which encompasses Cavalier county, Towner County and Ramsey counties. Our main cities are Langdon, Cando and Devils Lake.

House Bill 1457 is a vaccine confidence bill. It's purpose would be to inform the public that an exemption exists for required vaccines that do not meet certain minimal requirements.

Currently exemptions exist for medical, religious, philosophical / moral reasons. The minimal standards this bill is proposing would be based on science and allows for informed consent to the vaccines. The end result would be a well informed consumer who would then choose to go ahead and get the vaccine, or file an exemption. It would ensure that patients are fully aware of the benefits and risks of a vaccine and can make an informed decision about whether to get it or not.

Those minimal standards are listed on page 1, and I'll start on line 11.

Notwithstanding any other law, an individual who is required to receive a vaccine for any purpose, including as a condition of employment, school attendance, or securing a license, certification, or degree, may claim an exemption from the requirement if there is not a vaccine approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to fulfill the purpose that meets the following 4 criteria:

- a- The clinical trial the FDA relied on to approve the vaccine, evaluated its safety for at least one year after it was administered against a control group that received only a placebo or another vaccine that meets the requirements of this section;
- b- The department posts on its website the injuries or disease caused by the vaccine and the rate at which the injury or disease occurs due to the vaccine;
- c- The risk of permanent disability or death from the vaccine has been proven to be less than that caused by the infection it is intended to prevent, and
- d- The vaccine manufacturer is liable for any death or serious injury caused by the vaccine.

So if those 4 criteria cannot be met, then an exemption may be claimed.

I'd like you to ask yourself- Why wouldn't we want to inform the consumer of any risks or adverse reactions to vaccines?

Why wouldn't we want to inform the public there are vaccine exemptions so they don't feel forced to take them?

Why would we want to require consumers to receive a vaccine that does not have a manufacturer's liability? Or doesn't meet safety standards?

This whole covid era of the last several years have taught us a lot. We all learned that this MRNA vaccine does not work the same traditional vaccines. There were new adverse side effects we have never seen before associated with this new vaccine. We are just now finding out how great the risks and adverse effects really were. So lets put these safe guards in place to protect our citizens in the future.

We all want to work towards safe and effective vaccines. This bill simply asks for more information to be available to consumers to help them make the best possible informed medical decisions for their families.

Thank you Mr Chairman. I'd be happy to answer any questions.