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ND Legislature 69<sup>th</sup> Assembly

RE: HB 1472

I am writing in support of HB 1472 which would allow micro schools in North Dakota.

The catchphrase of our time is "school choice" but what that usually entails is oodles of government money paying for someone's choice to send their kids to private school or to homeschool. In ND, our choices are lacking compared to other states. We have public schools, private schools which are mostly religious, and we have homeschool. Micro schools are a blend of homeschool meets private school and offer another educational opportunity to families who want something different than the three choices offered in our state.

The number one reason I support micro schools is for parental choice. They simply need more options.

But, the other reasons I support micro schools are:

- 1- they don't cost the state any additional funding, won't take funding from public education and are much less expensive than costly administrative nightmares called ESAs.
- 2- they offer personalized learning where a child's learning abilities aren't limited by the rest of the class or the curriculum. Children can meet their full potential when they are educated as whole persons not just receptacles for information who then take a test. Micro schools offer whole person education.
- 3- they offer true socialization for the students. Because the ages are often blended and the community is small, micro schools give their students a "real world" socialization where they learn alongside and relate to people other than those their same age from their same zip code.

Though I am a homeschool mom, I believe micro schools bring a cost-effective, personalized education choice for North Dakota. Micro schools are an excellent choice and fantastic alternative to costly ESAs and other government funding options masquerading as school choice. Please pass HB 1472 and bring micro schools to North Dakota.

Sincerely, Kristy Rose