Testimony on HB 1478 House Education Committee February 2, 2021

Chairman Owens and members of the Committee, I am Nick Archuleta, president of North Dakota. I am happy to offer testimony in support of HB 1478 and to urge a DO PASS recommendation for the bill.

Members of the Committee, HB 1478 is a bill that dovetails nicely with steps taken since the passage of the Innovative Education Bill in 2017 that provide forward leaning practices to advance the educational experience in North Dakota. This bill, if passed, will allow students to experience and learn atypical educational modalities such as apprenticeships, internships, community programs, and more. Students will earn academic credit in ways unavailable to them today and licensed North Dakota teachers will be the teachers of record.

In addition, HB 1478 provides the necessary safeguards that will allow the Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine that each educational experience meets the high standards to which all our students are held.

For these reasons, Chairman Owens, and members of the Committee, I urge a DO Pass recommendation for HB 1478.