

**Senate Finance and Taxation Committee**

**Chairman Jessica Bell**

**March 9, 2021**

**Testimony of Gerald Vetter**

**President**

**State Association of Nonpublic Schools**

**[gvetter@lightofchristschools.org](mailto:gvetter@lightofchristschools.org)**

**701-354-7067**

**HB 1281**

**Chairman Headland and members of the committee, my name is Gerald Vetter. I am president of the State Association of Nonpublic Schools and I submitting this written testimony on behalf this association.**

**As an association we are supportive of any effort to empower parental choice in education and to allow parents to choose to educate their children through the education environment that suits them best— whether that is through public schools, nonpublic schools, or home schooling.**

**On behalf of 6,770 students in nonpublic schools in North Dakota and their parents we ask for your support of HB 1281. The nonpublic schools in North Dakota save taxpayers of North Dakota in excess of \$160 million dollars\* per biennium.**

**Thank You**

*\*NDDPI School Finance Facts (Fall 2019) Non-Public enrollment of 6,770 students X average cost of education per pupil \$12,435.*