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Testimony Before the House Education Committee

HB 1304

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Chairman Heinert and members of the Committee, for the record I am Nick Archuleta, president of North Dakota United. I rise today to urge a *do pass* recommendation for HB 1304.

Mr. Chairman, HB 1304 serves to increase the supply of much needed special education teachers and it does so while putting necessary guardrails in place to ensure quality in addition to quantity. HB 1304 allows individuals to receive a permit to teach only if he/she is enrolled in a bachelor's program and majoring in special education. Additionally, the bill stipulates that the permitted individual has to have finished all the required professional coursework, coursework specific to their major, and their student teaching experience. Finally, HB 1304 requires that the candidate for special education teaching permit pass the content specific tests required by the Education Standards and Practices Board. The two-year time limit on the permit ensures that the individual will be on course for full licensure.

Chairman Heinert and members of the Committee, HB 1304 represents thoughtful, meaningful legislation. I urge you to award HB 1304 a do pass recommendation.



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