

To: North Dakota Legislative Assembly

From: Mr. Christopher Sommer

Date 03/21/2023

Re: Senate Bill 2060

Good Morning ,I am writing in regards to Senate Bill 2060. I currently reside in Devils Lake North Dakota, and teach in a small school about 40 miles north of Devils Lake. I would recommend a do not pass of this Bill for the following reasons:

1. Prohibiting schools from using videos or surveillance without parental permission. If one parent refused parental permission the school then would not be allowed to use surveillance video of the building which is for the safety of the students and staff.
2. Section 2- Requiring all teachers to release Every lesson plan and curriculum to parents they will use at least 7 days in advance. Do schools not have a policy in place that allows parents or community members come in and inquire about what is being taught by the teachers of the school system to begin with? I have taught social studies in three schools in North Dakota and all three had a said policy when I was employed by them. If this is the case why is there a need for state to make a law for it?

Another question I have here is would this also apply to private schools? Since private schools have can determine who they do or do not want attending their schools, and do not have to follow all the regulations of pubic schools this is a valid question. If the voucher bill passes then I would hope that since the private schools would get public funds would be treated the same as public schools in regards to this bill.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic Governor Burgum said that he wanted schools to have their own COVID policies because was going on in Bismarck for example was not happening in Pembina. He wanted to have local school districts to have control of what was going on here. I see this bill as an excessive over reach of government. If parents want to come in and review their child's curriculum they can a any time they do not need a law to tell them they can do it.