

As an educator in the state of North Dakota this bill shocks and appals me. Teachers work hard every day to serve the children throughout this state with the limited time and resources we have. This bill would further hinder our ability to teach our students efficiently.

Each child is different and learns at their own pace. To force us to use our time to provide parent friendly lesson plans a full week in advance would not only waste time, but be detrimental to children. I cannot count how many times in my career that a lesson has needed to change to better suit my students' needs. If students are not progressing as planned, then it is my job to slow down and make sure my students get the time they need to sufficiently master the concepts I am trying to show them. The wording in this bill would make that impossible as I will be stuck on a lesson plan that is no longer beneficial. Teachers are many amazing things, but we cannot tell the future. As much as we try we cannot control when lesson plans will need to change. That is one of the most difficult parts of our jobs in that we must gauge where our students are each and every day to make sure we are not leaving any children behind. It is also something we have spent hours training to do. The lack of trust this bill places on teachers is insulting to our profession.

I love being a teacher, I love teaching and interacting with my students and the moment a parent has a question about concepts or curriculum I would be more than happy to explain the benefits and why I am teaching what I am teaching. But to force our hands into an inflexible system will do more harm than good for both teachers and students. Already we see teachers leaving the profession, not because of children, but because of issues like this. Being treated as if we are not professionals who sought out an education in furthering the lives of students. We do not ask for no accountability on our part, we merely ask for the trust and respect any other professional would ask. Let us do our jobs. Parents have access, all they need to do is reach out and ask.