

SB 2323 TESTIMONY
Senate Appropriations Committee
Senator Kathy Hogan
February 15, 2023

Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. I am
Senator Kathy Hogan and I represent District 21.

SB 2323 is the bill related to expansion of early childhood programs that helps to
prepare both children and their families for school. The bill included funding for
expansion of Best in Class to increase the number of children served and it funds
over 400 children who are eligible for the Head Start programs in ND that are on
waiting lists. The Best in Class expansion in this bill parallels what is in the
Governors budget. Best in Class was established as a pilot project last session and
this bill confirms our support of that model.

The most important piece of this bill may be Section 2--the study of the entire
childcare and early childhood system.

Thank you for your time and I am more than happy to answer any questions.