



**HB 1398**  
**Testimony of Terry Effertz**  
**Executive Director - TechND**

Chairman Elkin and members of the Senate Education Committee:

My name is Terry Effertz and I'm the executive director of TechND, an association founded by North Dakota business, government and education leaders in the year 2000. TechND advocates for a positive technology business climate, addresses workforce needs, encourages infrastructure development and provides knowledge-sharing opportunities.

On behalf of TechND, please accept our support of HB 1398. As we move further into the 21st century, technology has become an increasingly important aspect of our lives. It has changed the way we work, communicate, and even learn. That's why it's essential that our schools keep up with these changes and equip our students with the necessary skills to succeed in the digital age. Computer science and cybersecurity in education has numerous benefits.

1. Technology makes learning more interactive and engaging. With the help of digital tools students can learn complex concepts in a more accessible and enjoyable way. This type of learning makes it easier for students to remember the information they learn, resulting in a better understanding of the material.
2. Technology provides access to a wealth of information. Students can quickly and easily research various topics and find a vast array of sources. This helps students to broaden their knowledge and gain a more comprehensive understanding of the subjects they are studying, which is a skill that will serve them for life.
3. As technology continues to advance, it becomes an increasingly important skill in the workforce. By integrating technology into the classroom, we can ensure that our students are adequately prepared for the demands of the modern workforce. It's essential that we equip our students with the skills they need to succeed in the digital age and take advantage of the numerous job opportunities that come with it.

Technology has become an integral part of our daily lives, and it's crucial that our education system reflects this. By integrating technology into our high school education system, we can provide our students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the digital age. It's up to us to ensure that our students are prepared for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. I urge this committee to give HB 1398 a "do-pass" recommendation.