



Great Public Schools

Great Public Service

**Testimony Before the Senate Education Committee
SB 2032
January 17, 2023**

Chairman Elkin and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Nick Archuleta, and I am the president of North Dakota United. I am happy to offer testimony today in support of SB 2032.

The provisions of SB 2032 will facilitate moving dedicated paraprofessionals into teaching positions. The work that paraprofessionals do is absolutely crucial to the success of many of our most vulnerable students. The experiences of paraprofessionals are tremendous assets as they become teachers and serve their students and communities. The Para to Teacher program will help to ease teacher shortages in many communities across the state and is deserving of the State's investment.

For those reasons and more, we urge a DO PASS recommendation for SB 2032.