



Great Public Schools

Great Public Service

**Testimony Before the Senate Education Committee**  
**SB 2258**  
**January 24, 2023**

Chairman Elkin and Members of the Committee, for the record I am Nick Archuleta, president of ND United. I rise today to respectfully urge a **do not pass** recommendation for SB 2258.

Mr. Chairman, I am sure that SB 2258 was proposed with the admirable intention of getting more qualified educators in front of our children in schools across North Dakota. We laud that objective. However, we are opposed to SB 2258 because while SB 2258 may encourage retirees to return to the classroom, it does not go far enough to incentivize retired teachers to *remain* in the classroom. As a practical matter, the rehired retired teachers will not see an enhanced retirement benefit and that will certainly impact their decision to stay long term.

Like TFFR, we prefer HB 1219. That bill, introduced by Rep. Kempenich, Sen. Schaible, and others both incentivizes teachers to return to the profession and to stay as Section 7 of that bill provides for a higher recalculated benefit upon their re-retirement. Both SB 2258 and HB 1219 have minor impacts on the TFFR, but we believe that Section 7 of HB 1219 makes it more attractive to retired teachers.

For that reason, Chairman Elkin, and members of the Committee, I respectfully urge a **do not pass** recommendation for SB 2258.

This concludes my testimony, and I am happy to stand for questions.