

**Senate Finance and Taxation Public Hearing**  
**Feb 1st at 9:00am**  
**SB 2369 - Testimony in Opposition**

Chairman Kannianen and members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee, my name is Whitney Oxendahl, and I am writing in opposition to SB 2369. The bill's intent is to give a property tax credit to parents who send their kids to private school or homeschool, which would remove funding from our public school system.

I grew up going to private schools, because my parents chose to put me there when I could have been educated in public school for free. They paid for my schooling, and if other parents now are choosing private education or homeschooling, they can also choose to pay for it themselves.

Property tax dollars make up about a quarter of the funding for the North Dakota public school system and removing funds would degrade our public school system. Passing this bill would impact students, families, and teachers and staff when all could use our support.

My child is a first grader at a public elementary school in Fargo, getting a great education. **Please ensure that students across the state do not see a drop in the quality of public education by giving SB 2369 a Do Not Pass recommendation.**

Thank you for letting me share my testimony.