

House Education Committee
Jan 14th, 2025 HB 1100
Testimony in Support

Dear Chair Heinert and the members of the House Education Committee,

I urge a “Do Pass” on HB 1100

I’m a suicide prevention advocate and an expert in our state’s Youth Risk Behavior Survey data. When looking at questions of hunger, approximately 3.5% of our middle school and 2.0% of our high school students struggle with not enough food at home.

YRBS Question	Trans	LGB	Straight
ND 23qn42-CDC QN61(MnHnger30d). Percentage of students who most of the time or always went hungry because there was not enough food in their home (during the 30 days before the survey)	10.9%	5.60%	3.3%
NDH23qn71-CDC qn109 (HnHngr30d). Percentage of students who most of the time or always went hungry because there was not enough food in their home (during the 30 days before the survey)	13.2%	2.5%	2.1%

While this is not necessarily a direct relationship to school meals, it does highlight an immense need. These statistics represent thousands of students who are going hungry in our state. Who may only have school meals to eat each day. Who may be part of struggling families and choose to go without food to not be a burden at home.

The policy aspects of this bill are above my head, but I do acutely understand the struggles of our youth today. I understand how many feel hopeless, who struggle, and who sometimes starve. While I don’t know the answers, I support any direction that will help keep our youth fed.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state,
Faye Seidler