



**House Education  
HB1498**

**January 29, 2025**

Chairman Heinert and members of the House Education Committee. My name is Wayde Sick, and I serve as the State Director for the Department of Career and Technical Education. I am testifying today in support of HB1498.

HB1498 simply allows a school board to provide a signing bonus for teachers. Career and Technical Educations teachers are incredibly difficult to recruit, as many of them transition from industry to enter the teaching profession. This often means reduction in pay and additional coursework, to attain a teaching license.

I do ask that the Committee considers an amendment for HB1498. My recommendation is to add on line 8, after a school district, *or an area career and technology center*. Our area career and technology centers are operated, under the governance of a center board, which is comprised of representatives from each of the member school boards. This amendment would allow area career and technology centers the ability to also provide a first-year signing bonus for its new hires.

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

Thank you.