



Great Public Schools

Great Public Service

**Testimony Before the House Education Committee
HB 1510
Monday, February 10, 2025**

Chair Heinert and members of the House Education Committee, I am Bob Marthaller, registered lobbyist, and I am here today on behalf of the North Dakota United membership, to respectfully urge a **do pass** recommendation on HB 1510.

Chairman Heinert, I'd like to begin by thanking all fifteen members of Governor Burgum's Recruitment and Retention Task Force, especially NDU members Ashley Seykora, Abby DuBord, and Bret Dockter whose perspectives as front-line educators proved invaluable to the task force as they considered the diverse options before them.

Section One of the bill provides necessary information to administrators of teacher preparation programs enabling higher education institutions to develop quality teacher preparation curriculum and programing for individuals wishing to enter the teaching profession. School districts receiving this information will be able to better serve newly hired teachers and to better prepare local students intending to enter the teaching profession.

Obtaining quality childcare is a concern of many North Dakota families and those employed in the teaching profession share that concern. Giving, while not requiring, school districts the authority to provide childcare services for children in K-12 in a building on school grounds will potentially enhance teacher recruitment and retention. This may be particularly true in rural school districts.

Chairman Heinert and members of the committee, ND United also supports the study provided in HB 1510 that will examine the impact of crafting a health insurance pool for school district employees. We all know that health insurance premiums continue to rise and have added to the operational costs of school districts and an increase in premiums paid by teachers and other school district employees.

Chairman Heinert and members of the committee, it is for these reasons that ND United supports a **do pass** recommendation on HB 1510.

Thank you for your continued support for quality education in North Dakota.