

Dear House Education Committee:

My name is Katelyn Denne and I am writing in **support** of House Bill 1540. I support HB 1540 because I believe that ALL parents should have the opportunity to choose the educational system that works the best for their family. My husband and I have chosen a non-public educational institution for our children. We can send our children to a non-public school as a result of our own financial planning and sacrifice. The financial obstacles that parents must overcome to choose a non-public education is unjust. Parents should be able to make the right choice for their children, regardless of their financial situation, and HB 1540 would help families to be able to make that decision without the financial burden. Non-public education should not simply be an option for those with means, they should be an option for any family that feels that a non-public education would be beneficial for their child and family. Additionally, the non-public school that we choose to send our children to academically outperforms the public school district that we live in. As a property owner and taxpayer, HB 1540 would allow me to experience the benefits of my tax dollars as they relate to education. A truly well-rounded state education system includes public and non-public schools alike. As North Dakotans and parents, we should have the autonomy to make the best educational choice for our families while seeing our tax dollars at work.

Thank you for your work on the education committee and your public service. It is greatly appreciated by this voter and taxpayer.

Katelyn Denne

Minot, ND