

## Testimony against House Bill 1540

Dear members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Cam Leedah. I live in rural Leonard. I urge a Do Not Pass on HB 1540.

Whether it be ESAs, vouchers, or “money follows the child”, any taxpayer dollars spent towards non-public schools create serious issues. Here are a few:

- 1) Bigger government (administration) and greater burden to taxpayers. Arizona and other states with ESAs are running into financial trouble.
- 2) Accountability follows the money. Private schools will eventually be subject to rules and regulations that they currently are not under. They will eventually lose their uniqueness and independence that has made them different from public school.
- 3) Costs for tuition will rise, as they have in states that have had ESAs and vouchers for more than a few years. This is a burden for the non-public schools that do not take the money, and may indeed cause the end to some.

Non-public schools that use public money become **just a different type of public school**. That is not true school choice. In the end, the parent is simply deciding which type of public school they want.

Give this bill a Do Not Pass.