

Testimony against House Bill 1607

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 1607.

An educational empowerment account may seem like a good alternative to ESAs and vouchers but here are a few problems with this:

- 1) Bigger government (administration) and greater burden to taxpayers.
- 2) Accountability follows the money. Rules and regulations put onto programs or schools that did not already have them will hamper the very spirit that made them unique and turn them into another arm of the government.
- 3) Costs for tuition and programs will rise, as they have in states that have had these taxpayer funded programs for more than a few years. This is a burden for the non-public schools and programs that do not take the money, as well as a greater burden for taxpayers.

Keep taxpayer dollars in the public school.

Give this bill a Do Not Pass.