

Hello Chairman Heinert and committee members.

My name is Scott Grote and I farm in NW ND. I strongly oppose SB2400 because I believe it takes funds away from public schools. I want my tax dollars to go to public schools. In my part of the state the nearest private schools are in Minot which is 90 miles from me and Williston which is 80 miles from me and feel this bill is very unfair to rural areas. I believe public schools are held to a higher standard than private schools. My cousin sends their children to private school and this was very evident to me. This would take away funding from public schools. North Dakota has to keep a high standard of education for their children and I feel this will take away from that. I do not believe I need to help fund tuition for families that have chosen to send their children to private schools since that is the parent's choice. I have read vouchers in other states only help a few not all. These are a few of the reasons I strongly oppose SB2400. I encourage you to vote NO.