

To the House Education Committee Regarding SB2400

Please give a Do Not pass to SB2400.

If your intention is to give this a Do pass, I urge you to **adopt a proposed amendment** that would keep home education (as defined in statute) separate.

A problem with government subsidies for private education: Use of taxpayer money should come with accountability. Along with accountability comes “requirements” and regulation, additional to what private education already has. Regulatory creep is an undeniable probability, with the semi-private education becoming just another type of public school.

Additional problems with the education subsidy accounts include: Growth of government. Growth of bureaucracy. Increasing administrative costs. Need for audits to decrease fraud. Limited curriculum choices.

SB 2400 is masquerading as a “school choice” bill. True **School Choice** ensures a climate in which parents have choices other than the district public school for their children.

- Public (paid for by government money) Choices: district “brick and mortar” schools, online schools, alternative schools, charter schools.
- Private Choices: (not subsidized by the government): private schools, micro-schools (hybrid schools), homeschools, private online schools.

What about the parent who feels they cannot afford a private education? Is it fair for a parent to pay taxes for government education of other people’s children and then also pay money to privately educate their own child? There are good answers to these questions, which I would love to be able to sometime discuss with you.

Thank you for your service to North Dakota citizens.

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