

## **Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2400**

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North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action
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Good morning Chairman Heinert and honorable members of the House Education Committee,

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action would like to testify in support of Senate Bill 2400 and respectfully requests that you render a DO PASS on this bill.

Educational options are in high demand nationwide as parents seek out the best opportunities for their children. There are now 34 states and territories that currently offer some type of school choice program<sup>1</sup>, and we would love for North Dakota to join those ranks. Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs) and similar programs are some of the most popular types of school choice options because they offer families more educational flexibility through state financial support.

This bill would provide a state grant of varying amounts to all families who meet the requirements and choose to enroll in the program. The funding could be used towards an array of qualified educational expenses (including things like school meals, dual-credit courses, curriculum, or tuition) for public, private, and homeschool children. We are pleased that this covers many student scenarios and provides financial benefits to help meet numerous educational needs.

We strongly support this type of program in North Dakota, because it gives families more options as they consider the best educational fit for their children, their child's most effective learning techniques, and specific circumstances. In addition, a school choice option such as this allows families to consider more educational choices than may have been possible on their own income alone.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://excelinedinaction.org/2025/01/07/the-rise-of-eas-continues-10-states-take-action-on-school-choice-in-2024

For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action respectfully requests that you vote Senate Bill 2400 out of committee with a DO PASS recommendation.
Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony, I appreciate your consideration and I'm happy to stand for any questions.
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