

Dear Members of the committee:

I stand opposed to SB 2400.

There are no private schools in my entire legislative district, so my tax dollars would be going to fund schools that are not even available to my family and neighbors.

Using taxpayer dollars to pay for private schools is not the function of government.

Public monies require public accountability; including public disclosure of use of funds, open school board meetings; they must follow open meeting laws, and public schools are open to all students regardless of background, sex, ability, and socioeconomic status.

Funding must be available to invest in well-trained educators, support staff, and counselors to address the diverse needs of these children.

It is very costly for public schools to meet the diverse needs of those students who do not meet the admission standards of private schools.

Public taxpayer dollars should remain within the public education system so that ALL North Dakota students receive a high quality education, not just those who can afford to go to a private school

I urge you to give a DO NOT PASS recommendation for SB 2400.

Mary Schlosser