

I would like to give my public written testimony to this measure.
We must NOT pass either SB 2400 or HB 1540 in any way shape or form.

My tax dollars have been, and always should be designated for PUBLIC SCHOOLS only.

Many of our rural schools are on the brink of financial collapse as they attempt to follow state DPI guidelines. By diverting my tax dollar to private schools or home school vouchers you are taking away from rural North Dakota.

I am a 4th generation North Dakotan and my Grandchildren are 6th generation. We have all attended public education and have or will become integral parts of ND society.

I can not see how destroying rural schools is going to be 'better' for anyone.

Our state constitution specifically states that ALL students are intitled to free public instruction.

If someone wants to send their child to a private school, that is their decision and I should not be forced to pay or give up anything for someone else's personal preference.

At the Heart of any community is its school district, I feel the smaller rural schools are more so the center of a community.

We have lost too many of these fantastic schools and the communities are soon to follow.

My daughter attended one such school that was forced into cooping. Her and her 2 other classmates were performing at 5-7th grade levels when they finished the 2nd grade. This education was far and away some of the BEST education provided her. Not all small schools are 'bad' and not all large schools are 'good'.

PLEASE see the common sense and do not fund private schools with our tax money. Continue to build the HEART of rural North Dakota instead of ripping it apart!!

Sincerely,
Michael J Sandy
Oakes ND