

March 14, 2025

TO: Honorable Members of the Senate Education Committee

FR: Benjamin & Anne Chambers – District 35

RE: HB 1540

Dear ND Senate Education Committee Member:

We are writing to urge and encourage your support for HB 1540 and to vote with a **DO PASS** recommendation. This bill was previously heard and supported by the North Dakota House of Representatives.

This bill would provide additional resources by way of an Educational Savings Account to those families who financially sacrifice to enroll their children in a private school environment. The majority of these individuals (including us) contribute financially to fund our public schools through the property taxes incurred.

By way of background, both Anne and I are blessed with two young children and for various reasons we relocated from South Dakota to North Dakota to serve in Bismarck as teachers in a private school. As you are aware, the salaries and benefits offered for private school teachers are less than a public school. However, for numerous reasons this is a sacrifice we were willing to make.

We have enjoyed living in North Dakota and look forward to raising our children here. Your support of this legislation would be greatly appreciated and most timely!

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

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