

Testimony in Opposition to HB 1540
March 17, 2025

Chair and members of the committee, my name is Whitney Oxendahl, and I'm writing in opposition to House Bill 1540.

Public schools are the backbone of our communities, including mine. We love Horace Mann Roosevelt Elementary School where my two school-age children attend. I serve as a leader on the PTA to help connect families to our school.

Over half of the students receive assistance, so we qualify as a Title 1 school. We have more than a dozen languages spoken at our school. We also need new facilities. The district is exploring building a new school to combine our facilities to better secure our building entrances and increase the accessibility for students with disabilities.

With all this, our school staff is fantastic, dedicated, and helps our students thrive. We should do more to support them and focus our funding efforts on our public schools.

I urge you to give House Bill 1540 a Do Not Pass recommendation. Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony.