

Senate Education Committee

March 17, 2025

Submitted by: Carol Fey, concerned citizen

Re: HB 1540 Education Savings Program

Chairman Beard and Committee,

This bill scares me!! The Ashley Public School District already has 18 children that do not attend our public school, either they are attending other area schools, or are being home schooled. What do you think will happen if this bill passes?

We already allow home schooled children to use many of our school resources for free when they participate in our extracurricular activities and we are losing out on the state per pupil payment.

I am a parent of three and grandparent of three and our small committee cannot afford to see our small schools close. I do not mind paying taxes to be disbursed to our schools to use as they see fit for *all* students. If parents choose not to utilize them, that is *their* choice. That building is the heart of the community and believe it or not many people love to live in a rural community rather than Fargo and Grand Forks cities.

This is just another attempt for citizens to hold out their hands for another hand out with devastating long-term consequences.

Help to preserve the future of our small rural schools and vote no on HB1540

Thank you