

Subject: Oppose Educational Savings Accounts – Protect Public Education

Dear Senate Committee

I urge you to oppose any legislation promoting Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs), which funnel taxpayer dollars away from public schools under the misleading promise of “school choice.” These programs weaken our education system by diverting funds to private institutions, often with little accountability or oversight.

Public dollars should stay in public schools. ESAs primarily benefit families who can already afford alternative education options while leaving behind the vast majority of students who rely on well-funded public schools. Instead of improving education, ESAs create a two-tiered system that drains resources from the very institutions that serve most children. Most rural district students do not have the option to attend a private institution due to the travel involved to commute to a more rural community.

Rather than propping up private and unregulated education programs with public money, we should focus on strengthening our public schools—hiring more teachers, reducing class sizes, and improving resources. Every child deserves access to a strong public education, not a system where only a select few get the best opportunities.

I urge you to stand against ESA expansion and protect public education for all students.

Sincerely,

Steven Heim