



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2244

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Good morning, Madam Chair Larson and honorable members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. My name is Jacob Thomsen, and I am a Policy Analyst with North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying on behalf of our organization in favor of Senate Bill 2244 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill.

The family is the fundamental building block of society, and parents are the primary stakeholders in a child’s well-being. They should always know what is going on in their child’s life so that they may parent the child in the most appropriate manner with regard to their unique characteristics and environment.

A parent ought to know what is being taught to their child in the school system. It is a parental responsibility to take part in their child’s education. They should know about and have the choice of whether or not to subject their children to controversial topics that may be presented in the classroom. With the arrival of COVID, many parents needed to be more directly involved with their children’s classroom materials, and they were shocked at what they found. It should not take a pandemic to ensure parents know what their children are learning.

This bill supports that parents are the final arbiters in their child’s education, mental health treatment, moral and religious training, and general upbringing. This is entirely consistent with biblical mandates, our organization’s values, and those of thousands of our constituents across North Dakota. Because of these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action requests that you render a “DO PASS” on Senate Bill 2244.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I’d be happy to answer any questions.