

Chairman and Members of the Committee.

For the record, Roger Maki, District 26.

House Bill 1498 gives the ability to a school district to pay a bonus to hire new teachers.

Rationale : Last session there were changes made to the bonus bill. With good intention it was helpful to school boards and schools. That change was to bonus employees to incentivize them in a district once they have been there at least for a year to take on a new role or project. In that bill the old language of a teacher that was in that first year in North Dakota was removed. There were unintended consequences in removing that. They learned that the small schools were able to use that to recruit teachers and incentivize them to come to their communities. This is an ask to introduce the whole language back into law along with the language that was placed in last session. Both of these pieces of flexibility would be beneficial to schools. House passed this Bill 89-4-1

Please pass this bill.