



Great Public Schools

Great Public Service

Testimony on HB 1114
House Education Committee
January 12, 2021

Chairman Owens and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Nick Archuleta, and I am the President of North Dakota United. I rise today in support of HB 1114 and to urge a DO PASS recommendation for the bill.

Mr. Chairman, for years we have been told by our teacher members, particularly those new to the profession, that they need to have adequate professional supports to help them as they transition from the study of education to actually teaching in North Dakota's great public schools. HB 1114 provides the resources to make that needed support more readily available to more teachers.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, we need to be doing everything in our power to recruit and retain teachers in North Dakota. We need to be sure that teachers, particularly those new to the profession, feel supported in their work. As you know, since last March, no one in education has had anything close to a normal teaching experience. Teachers in their first-year last year and this year have had a trial by fire and for those student teaching during the pandemic have not had normal student teaching experiences. HB 1114, when passed and signed into law, will provide our most vulnerable teachers with the support they need to be effective in the classroom and the confidence they need to remain in our beloved profession.

On behalf of the 11,500 members of ND United, I urge a DO PASS recommendation on HB 1114.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee for the opportunity to testify before you today. I am happy to stand for any questions.