



**NDSBA**  
NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL  
BOARDS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 7128  
Bismarck ND 58507-7128  
1-800-932-8791 • (701)255-4127  
[www.ndsba.org](http://www.ndsba.org)

**HB 1232**  
**Testimony of Amy DeKok**  
**Senate Education Committee**  
**March 10, 2021**

Chairman Schaible and members of the committee, my name is Amy DeKok. I am in-house Legal Counsel for the North Dakota School Boards Association. NDSBA represents all 178 North Dakota public school districts and their boards. NDSBA stands in support of HB 1232.

Over the past year, public schools have faced unprecedented challenges in delivering quality education services to the students of North Dakota. If we have learned anything as a result of these challenges, is that public schools need to be able to deliver education services to students over multiple platforms, especially in the event the traditional methods are unavailable or limited. One such platform is virtual instruction. Schools were forced to turn exclusively to virtual instruction in order to continue to provide high-quality and legally required instruction to students during the pandemic. It is certainly possible (and likely) that schools will again face circumstances in the future that make traditional in-person delivery difficult or impossible. HB 1232 builds flexibility into state law to allow for the use of virtual instruction when school is closed or cancelled due to inclement weather or other conditions and that such instruction will count toward the instructional hour requirements if certain conditions are met.

For these reasons, NDSBA urges a Do Pass recommendation on HB 1232. Thank you for your time.