



*Great Public Schools*

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**Testimony Before the House Education Committee  
HB 1240  
Monday, January 23, 2023**

Chairman Heinert, Vice-chair Schreiber-Beck and members of the House Education Committee, for the record I am Nick Archuleta, president of North Dakota United. I am happy to rise today in support of HB 1240 and to urge a ***do pass*** recommendation.

Mr. Chairman, we applaud Rep. Schreiber-Beck and all the sponsors of HB 1240 for making individuals in the last two years of a teacher educational program eligible for the help provided by the skilled workforce student loan provisions and the skilled workforce scholarship.

Those of us at ND United are confident that this legislation will make a meaningful impact on those individuals who have already chosen a career in public education but are having difficulty completing their degrees. Additionally, our expectation is that the provisions of HB 1240 will cause young people not already in college to choose education as their profession and mitigate the effects of the teacher shortage we are experiencing across North Dakota.

With that, I will conclude my remarks and stand for any questions.