



Testimony Regarding HB 1532

We are seeing the needs increase for quality education in our state, and more and more families are finding alternative ways to meet those needs. Our public education system is doing the best that it can, but it is challenged in meeting the needs for all students. We see this as the homeschool programs are increasing in number and private school enrollments are on the rise.

It only seems fair that the tax dollars that we should be looking at supporting the other choices that families have made for their children's education. We have seen children grow and blossom in the environment that Martin Luther School can offer. We know the sacrifice it is for parents to send their child to our school. They appreciate the smaller class size which we know is a benefit to students. They appreciate the values that are instilled and the personal care our teachers are able to give to their students. However, it shouldn't be the financial burden that it is. They end up paying twice, through their tax dollars and then tuition. And naturally, the cost of private education have be inhibitive of itself, and many don't even consider the option, even though they would like to.

I absolutely agree that we need to contribute to a public system to help maintain an educated and civilized society. However, there should be a way that the funding also allows the families to afford the educational program of their choosing.

In closing, I am firmly in favor of passing HB 1532 as I believe it would be beneficial to the citizens of our state.

Sincerely,

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