

31 January 2023

To whom it would concern,

Good afternoon, I am writing this letter in support ND HB 1532. My wife and I have two boys ages 11 & 15 who have attended St. Mary's since kindergarten.

This choice to send our boys to a private establishment was not because we opposed the public school system, more so because of our childhood experiences in small town ND. Both my spouse and I grew up loving both God and country which prompted us to put our children in a facility which supported the same values. We have nothing but the utmost respect for the Light of Christ school system. Because of our decision, we believe our boys have developed into intelligent and respectful human beings. They continue to surprise us with the knowledge they possess academically and in their faith.

Again, I cannot attest to the quality of the public school system and have nothing negative to say in its regards. I will say, I am a product of the same system and turned out great! Joking aside, this bill will help ease the financial burden on those who choose to send their children to private schools which align more with their values. This choice was a financial burden we chose to endure, however with the current cost of living it continues to stack up. By off setting the cost of our children absent seats in the public school system and putting it back into our quality of life it would be beneficial to those ND citizens who truly want the best for the future of our state.

I appreciate the opportunity to present this document and would have loved to sit in on the hearing of HB 1532. Unfortunately, I am currently out of the great state of ND mobilized. With that said, the two humans my wife and I are incredibly lucky to have are thriving. They stepped up their level of responsibility in my absence which I believe directly reflects how our choice has also paid dividends up to this point in our lives.

In closing, I encourage passage of HB 1532 as I believe this bill will not only be beneficial to those who send their children to private schools, but to those who desire too as well. This enactment will encourage those who have certain values and beliefs to allow their children to learn and grow in the environment they desire without the additional financial burden.

Sincerely,

*David M. Dreher*

David M. Dreher

