

Dear Members of the ND Legislative Assembly,

I am writing **in support of HB 1532**.

First, when I decided to send my child to private school, I knew this would require great sacrifice on my part. I was barely living above the poverty level; However, I found a way to make this work for my son because it was important to me as a parent to give my son an education that met our needs. Honestly, it was anxiety-inducing not having any money left for emergencies or extras. Parents shouldn't have to make choices between filling their cupboards and giving their kids the educational experience that is best for them. All Parents should have a choice in their children's education, rich or poor. All children deserve to receive a quality education of their parent's choosing.

Second, over the years, our living situation has improved, but \$5,900.00 in tuition is still a burden. Next year I will have two students in private school with a tuition bill sure to exceed \$8,000.00. This bill is especially important now because our property taxes increased a whopping 16% over the previous year to fund a new public high school. This *extra money* is being taken from my family, and we receive nothing in return. We pay taxes; therefore, we deserve to see some benefit.

Passing this bill is a step in the right direction for North Dakota families.

Best regards,

Mary and Jeremy Saxer