

February 1, 2023

House Education Committee

Testimony in Support of HB1532

Members of the House Education Committee,

I am submitting testimony of HB1532 that would provide general fund dollars to help provide fairness in educational choices to families who choose to send their children to private schools.

While I feel that it is important that we all pay our fair share of taxes to fund public services, when it comes to educational options for our children we should have the ability to decide where those dollars go. As it stands today, in order to send my child to private school we have to pay twice which is unfair. Funding should follow the student, not the school. This bill is a step in the right direction to use budget surplus dollars to fund a partial reimbursement for families who have paid more than our fair share of public school education budget through our property taxes.

I respectfully ask for the committee to give HB1532 a recommendation of "Do Pass" and a vote in support of this legislation to provide a level of fairness in educational funding for families in North Dakota.

Thank you,

Stephanie Fortner

Bismarck, ND