

I am writing in support of House Bill No. 1532, on school choice. The reasons for my support are threefold.

1) Parents have the primary responsibility for educating their children. Therefore, increased school choice gives parents a greater capacity to provide a proper education for their children.

2) Proper education is difficult. Therefore, creative, competitive, and innovative educational institutions should be invested in, rather than solely the monolithic public school system. And again, this benefits parents in their goal of providing a proper education for their children.

3) Public schools fail to provide a proper education. Even by simple academic standards, ND is ranked nearly last in the nation on school performance. More perniciously, ND schools have overtly pushed obscene and ideological agendas towards children. For example, the Grand Forks Public Schools Transgender Policy promotes transgender ideology to children, hides this fact from parents, and forces teachers to lie to parents. Quoting from the policy, *“School staff shall not disclose any information that may reveal a student’s transgender status to others, including parents or guardians and other school staff, unless legally required to do so or the student has authorized such disclosure.”* Therefore, giving parents more control in their children’s education—rather than public schools—will help parents guide their children towards a proper education. Education that seeks truth, not lies and ideology.

Thank you for your time.