

Rebecca Marshall
3201 Desert Star Lane
Grand Forks, ND, 58201

RE: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1532**

Dear Representative Heinert and members of the House Education Committee:

I am writing in support of HB 1532. As a North Dakota resident and parent of school-aged children, I believe school choice would enhance our community and give parents the option to select schools that meet their desired children's needs.

I am a registered nurse and I know my patients have many choices in where they seek care. As a parent, I would like to be afforded a similar freedom by having a choice as to where my children learn and the cost involved. Having the expense of private school tuition means more hours on the hospital floor and time away from my family. The additional revenue to our family would help offset the climbing costs in my family's budget.

Having a tangible form of school choice will help to attract workforce from other states that don't offer the same opportunity. Those considering a relocation to North Dakota, especially in a high-demand field such as mine, may be swayed by the opportunity to have some form of school choice as provided by HB 1532. These additional workers will keep our healthcare options, businesses, and communities strong.

The bill, as written, allocates funding from the state based on student enrollment within the public school systems. The public schools can't lose money they never had to begin with since my children have never been enrolled in the public school system. Therefore, no dollars will be lost by allocating these funds to parents like me.

I ask for a "do pass" recommendation on HB 1532.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Marshall