

My name is Lindsay Thorfinnson and I live in district 43. I am a parent who has chosen to enroll my children in St. Michael's Catholic School. As a private educator, as well as a mother whose child attends a private school, I urge this bill to be passed. I am a product of a Catholic school, as well as my siblings. We never took for granted this opportunity that was made possible through our mother's employment at our school. Had she worked elsewhere, there's a good chance that we would not have had the same education and formation. Following in those footsteps, I see first hand the families who have to sacrifice so much in order to send their children to a private school. I also see those families who feel that they can't afford to send their children to our school. I strongly support 1532 because I believe that all families should have the opportunity to send their children to their school of choice. I can't imagine sending my children anywhere else. I realize that it's not a possibility for many due to financial obligations. From a Catholic educator, I can also see the benefits of using funding for more support for our students. There are children with special needs who wouldn't have to go to a different school than their siblings if we had the funding and resources to provide the support they need. I urge you to vote in favor of HB 1532. Thank you for your service to the state of North Dakota and for your time on ND 1532.