

March 13, 2023

Dear Honorable Members of the North Dakota Senate,

My name is Hope Coleman and I live and work in LaMoure. I am the librarian and a reading interventionist at Lamoure Public Schools. I am the mother to two current and one future student of LaMoure Public Schools.

I am writing today in opposition HB 1532. I strongly oppose it not because of its support of private schools, but because of how it seems to completely ignore taxpayers in rural communities where private schools are nonexistent. I choose to live, work, and raise my family in LaMoure because the school system supports our small town values and am in no way obligated to fund private education in communities 50 times more populated than ours and so starkly different from ours. Rural communities like LaMoure need continued funding for our schools. If supporting private schools in urban communities is important to you, this bill is not the way to achieve it. This bill does not provide equity for all North Dakotans. Please consider opposing this bill.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,

Hope Coleman

4 6th Ave NW

LaMoure, ND, 58458