

Members of the Education Committee,

My name is Cassandra Baker. I am a parent who has 2 children that attend Christ the King Catholic Montessori School. My husband works at the University of Mary, and I work at Christ the King as a teacher. I have been a teacher in private schools for the past 10 years. I also am currently undergoing a Masters program in education.

HB 1532 would have on the families I serve. If the bill passes, it will afford families greater financial freedom while still allowing them to send their children to a faith-based school. Every family deserves the right to send their child to whichever school they choose. Helping to relieve financial burden would greatly benefit all families, and the education system overall. I believe that it would also help public schools by relieving some pressure with rising attendance and space issues.

I am also a parent. Both my husband and I work in private education, and earn far less than a public school teacher or many other career options. We also send our children to private schools, and pay tuition. It is difficult to afford, on our low salaries. However, we believe our work is mission work, and we make sacrifices to allow our children to attend a wonderful private school. If the bill passes, it would be a relief to our family, and would allow us to continue the work that we currently do. Please vote in support of Bill HB 1532!

Thank you members of the committee. Thank you for your service to this beautiful state of North Dakota. I absolutely love our state and I appreciate all you have done for the incredible people who live here.

Cassandra Baker