

1 North Dakota School Study Council Testimony in Support SB 2244 –
2 Parent’s Rights

3 Chairman Heinert and Members of the Committee,

4 I am writing to express my support for SB 2244, which seeks to affirm and
5 protect parents' rights in the education of their child(ren). Parents play an
6 essential role in shaping their children's education, and it is critical that their
7 rights be acknowledged and upheld within the educational system. If any
8 educational system accepts public dollars, directly or indirectly, there needs
9 to be public accountability.

10 However, while we support the bill's intent, we respectfully suggest a
11 couple of amendments to ensure that parental rights are applied fairly and
12 equitably across all educational settings:

- 13 1. **Inclusion of All Children:** The bill should explicitly state that parental
14 rights extend to all children, regardless of whether they attend public,
15 private, or charter schools. The choice of a private education should
16 not require parents to forfeit their fundamental rights in guiding their
17 child’s education.
- 18 2. **Removal of Section 2, Part 5:** This section should be deleted
19 because existing school district policies already provide appropriate
20 avenues for parents to seek relief in cases of disputes or concerns.
21 Adding additional provisions may create unnecessary redundancies
22 and bureaucratic hurdles.

23 By making these adjustments, SB 2244 can better serve all families while
24 maintaining a clear and effective framework for parental engagement in
25 education.

26 Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to support SB 2244
27 with these recommended amendments to ensure that all parents maintain
28 their rightful role in their children’s education. Please feel free to reach out if
29 I can provide further information or clarification.

30 Thank you for your time and consideration.

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32 Dr. Paul Stremick