

Brook LaRowe-Sailer – Special Education Teacher

District #7

Date: 3/21/2025

Members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Brook LaRowe-Sailer, and I am a special education teacher in North Dakota. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 1530 and urge you to pass this bill as soon as possible. As a dedicated educator, I see firsthand the increasing needs of students with disabilities and the growing strain on our schools to provide them with a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) as required by law. However, our funding, staffing, and resources have not kept up with these demands, making it increasingly difficult to give students the individualized support they need to succeed.

The challenges facing special education providers today are immense. Our caseloads are higher, the severity of student needs has increased, and we are often forced to do more with fewer resources. We are constantly adapting to new requirements, addressing behavioral challenges, and providing differentiated instruction—all while navigating shortages of specialized staff and funding constraints. The reality is that without additional support, many schools struggle to meet the needs of students with disabilities, leaving both educators and families in impossible situations.

HB 1530 is a necessary step forward. This bill [insert key provisions of the bill, such as increased funding, improved staffing ratios, or expanded resources for special education services—if available]. These changes will allow us to better support our students, reduce burnout among special education staff, and ensure that North Dakota remains a leader in providing equitable educational opportunities for all children.

By passing this bill, you are making a clear statement that students with disabilities matter, their education matters, and the educators who serve them matter. You are ensuring that our schools have the necessary funding, personnel, and resources to provide every child with the high-quality education they deserve.

I urge you to support HB 1530 and move it forward without delay. Our students, families, and educators cannot afford to wait any longer. Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome any questions and appreciate your commitment to the success of all students in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Brook LaRowe-Sailer