

Dear Chairman Beard and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

I urge you to give House Bill 1540 a “Do Pass” recommendation. This bill expands educational opportunities for North Dakota families by enhancing Education Savings Accounts (ESAs), making it easier for families to afford the best education for their children.

Parents of private school students contribute to the same tax base that funds public education, yet they receive no financial support for the schools they choose. This effectively forces families to pay twice—once through taxes that fund public schools they do not use, and again in tuition for private education that better meets their children's needs. HB 1540 helps correct this inequity by allowing families to direct a portion of their tax dollars toward the education that serves their children best.

HB 1540 empowers parents by allowing them to use ESA funds for tuition, curriculum, and other educational expenses. By supporting this bill, you are promoting school choice, fostering competition, and strengthening education in North Dakota.

Education should be about opportunity, not financial limitations. Please support HB 1540 to ensure all families, regardless of where they choose to educate their children, receive fair support from the state. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenton Peltz

Bismarck, ND