

Chairperson and committee members:

My name is Joe Bata from Adams, ND. I'm a member of the Walsh County School Reorganization committee, and have been involved in school business for over 25 years. I am a loyal taxpayer.

I'm writing in opposition to bill 2158. As the bill reads, a school district can give up to \$500,000 to a political subdivision, but it gives no use of the money. The political subdivision (city?) can use it for anything they wish. I realize the bill was written to make it legal for the Edmore School Board to give the city of Edmore these funds. As a tax payer in the district, they are my funds, Funds that have been questioned by the Attorney General's Office. These Funds are tax payer dollars and state aid given to the school district for the Education of children, not a political subdivision. Are we to encourage other districts to build up funds to be given away? An amount with a \$100,000 ceiling and stating it must be used for maintenance of a school building after the district closes would be an appropriate revision of this bill. This revision would make more sense for North Dakota. Please use some common sense when reviewing this bill, written for one school district in mind.

Sincerely,

Joseph L. Bata