

I am a father of four. My oldest child attend Martin Luther School, a private school in Bismarck. My second oldest will be attending the same school next school year. The reason we chose this school is because we want them to have frequent interaction with the teacher and classmates which this school offers given the small number of students in classes. We want classes with manageable number of students for the instructor. We also want a school ranked high for academic achievement. In the area we live there is only one public elementary school that does not satisfy what we are looking for when sending our kids to school. Unfortunately, private education comes at a higher cost. Our income has stayed the same as our pre pandemic income. The pandemic and the high inflation have made educating children in private school even more expensive. The limited budget that families like ours have, make us sacrifice a lot of things to be able to send our kids to best nonpublic schools. We are struggling to send our kids to the school that fits our aspirations.

I am testifying in support of ND House Bill 1532 because:

- It will prevent public school from been overcrowded by encouraging parents to send their kids to nonpublic school of their choice.
- It will help families that are struggling to pay for tuition in nonpublic schools.
- It will help families like ours to have access to best schools that they wouldn't be able to because of financial reasons.