March 10, 2023

To Members of the Senate Education Committee:

This letter is in support of HB 1532. We are asking that you consider the following comments when you vote on this issue.

We have a large family, and presently have our ninth child at Bishop Ryan Catholic School in Minot. Has it been a financial struggle? Absolutely. This bill would allow all parents to choose what is the best school for our children. It is our belief that we should have the ability to make these choices. Though we are in our final four years at Bishop Ryan, our grown children are experiencing the financial burden of choosing a nonpublic school for their children.

Our state uses tax dollars already to secure services from non-public and religious institutions.

HB 1532 will not remove or lessen resources needed by public schools. We respectfully ask that you consider these statements, and vote in favor of HB 1532.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for the commitment you have to North Dakota's citizens.

Sincerely, Ralph and Kathleen Charley