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3/14/2023

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Joe Drumm. I'm writing in opposition to HB 1532.

As a teacher, my job at a public high school is to teach all students that come into my building, regardless of race, creed, orientation, or views. I aim to ensure they receive a quality education that the Education Standards and Practice Board of the state of North Dakota has outlined and agreed upon as important and worthwhile content.

We are centered in service. We do not seek profit, we seek to prepare the next generation of learners for our workforce and world.

This bill, directly and indirectly, flies in the face of the mission of public schools and the ESPB. The government has an obligation to provide education to all students and all people regardless of circumstances. Public institutions use whatever funds we are able to gather in order to directly serve our community, regardless of individual circumstances. <u>Private schools hold no such</u> <u>obligation</u>. They may turn away any student for any reason, which flies in the face of nearly every educational entity's mission statement. By supporting them fiscally, we undermine a truth we as North Dakotans and Americans all hold: no matter what, you deserve the highest education we can provide you.

Education cannot be conditional as a citizen, a well-educated population is necessary for democracy to flourish. This bill pulls funds from well-regulated institutions and gives them to institutions that do not require the same oversight. Do not endorse this bill.

Sincerely,

Joe Drumm