March 13, 2023

Senate Education Committee

RE: HB1532

Good evening,

As a single parent of two school-aged children, I decided to enroll my oldest at Bishop Ryan Catholic School last fall when he entered 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Since that time, he has grown in confidence, respect, structure, discipline, attitude, and so much more. The strain of the tuition cost has not gone unnoticed though, and with his younger sister planning to join him at Bishop Ryan in 2024, my fear of not being able to afford this tuition burden is real.

A non-public, Catholic education is important to my family. Prayer in school today is vital, and the classes that my son participates in are growing his character every day. I am grateful to the teachers and staff of Bishop Ryan for their commitment to our faith and partnering with me to pass that along to my children.

If passed, HB1532 would show ND families that a non-public school education is as equally important as a public school education. The offset of some of the education costs would be a tremendous relief for my budget, while my tax dollars continue to support public schools. This seems like a win-win to me!

I implore you to prayerfully consider a yes vote on HB1532 to help families like mine.

Thank you,

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