

Rachel Jorgensen

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BILL NUMBER: HB 2553

BILL DESCRIPTION: Allowing K-12 students to transfer to and attend school in any school district in the state.

PROPONENT, OPPOSE, or NEUTRAL: OPPOSE

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY:

As a parent who is very involved in our Title 1 neighborhood school, I strongly oppose HB 2553. Allowing students to transfer to any school of their choosing will most likely lead to many families leaving the neighborhood school in favor of a “higher performing” school with a better reputation. I know from experience that people assume things about our neighborhood school without ever stepping foot in the building, based off what people have said and test scores that they see online. To provide a proverbial “ticket out” to families like this would most certainly hurt the school that my kids attend. If this bill were to be passed, schools that are already struggling will lose valuable families from their learning communities. Schools that are viewed as high performing and more “ideal” will be flooded with students—and not students who are on the margin or receiving an inadequate education. These students will likely be middle to higher income. Let’s be real—this isn’t for low income students who are truly not receiving an adequate education. Instead, our efforts should be spent fully funding public education—the option available to the least of these. Let’s provide for EVERY public school, rather than channeling our energies toward giving already privileged kids more privilege. I cannot say enough—I strongly oppose HB 2553.