

Dear Senate Committee,

I am writing to state my opposition to the **amendment to SF 1311** and ask that **you strike the language on lines 19.8 through 19.11 of the original version of SF-1311** which states: An eligible institution must not require a faith statement during the application process or base any part of the admission decision on a student's gender or sexual orientation or religious beliefs or affiliations.

I would like this letter to become part of the Written Testimony for Wednesday's hearing.

My 3 teenage sons have benefited greatly from PSEO classes through Crown College and University of Northwestern. They have grown immensely from classes like Spanish, Entrepreneurship and Business Consulting, Personal Finance, English, and Economics. It has prepared them well and they will leave college with less debt because it will allow them to graduate from college early. I have also seen their confidence grow and they have learned the value of hard work as they have put in great effort to excel in these college classes. I believe students should have the freedom to choose the post secondary institution that is the best fit for them. Also, this would affect a good percentage of students, as 25% of PSEO students attend PSEO at faith-based institutions. These programs are providing needed classes for the growing number of students accessing the PSEO option. Forcing students away from faith-based colleges will increase competition for PSEO spots at secular universities and will limit the choices available to all students.

The above reasons are why I am asking you to **you strike the language on lines 19.8 through 19.11 of the original version of SF-1311 to amendment to SF 1311.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Jennifer Widdifield
10184 Kiersten Place
Eden Prairie, MN 55347