

Dear Senators,

I am very opposed 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 am adamantly opposed to this legislation due to the fact that education is so critically important to the future of young people and their future families. All research from a sociological standpoint points to the fact that the level of education a person has is directly related to the level of success they are capable of achieving with relations to becoming independent, productive members of society. We should not be limiting choices for higher education in any way, shape, or form. The more choices we have for our students to earn college credit in high school, the better. This is extremely unwise legislation. All research points to the fact that the more choices a student has in higher education, the more likely they are to complete a degree, and subsequently, to be capable of earning higher salaries and supporting their own families.

We should be giving every student every single possible opportunity to earn expensive college credits while in high school. This investment into students, regardless of where they go to high school, will empower them to continue their post secondary education in ways, they may not have been able to afford otherwise

I am very opposed to this proposed legislation.

Katherine Benson  
604 Summerfield Drive  
Chanhassen, MN 55317