

Dear Senate Education Policy Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read and **submit my letter to become part of the Written Testimony for Wednesday's hearing.**

I am writing to you as **I am 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.

My kids are just entering high school and not eligible yet, but **PSEO is something they are all interested in pursuing and would appreciate the freedom to choose the post-secondary institution that is best for them.** 25% of PSEO students attend PSEO at faith-based institutions. Removing the option of faith-based institutions would eliminate those programs that are providing the classes needed 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. Students state-wide have many choices about what institutions to get their PSEO credits, so not one is obligated to attend a faith-based college for PSEO. College debt is a real struggle for young adults as they complete college and enter the work force. Students in the PSEO option, including faith-based institutions, have much less college debt because of this program. Forcing students away from faith-based colleges will increase competition for PSEO spots at secular universities and will limit the choices available for all students.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Narvaez', written in a cursive style.

Rick Narvaez
7196 Frontier Trail
Chanhassen, MN 55317