

Minnesota Senate Committee:

I am opposed to the amendment to SF-1311 as it stands now, and would ask that you please 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 race, creed, ethnicity, disability, gender, or sexual orientation or religious beliefs or affiliations.

I am opposed to this because students should have the freedom to choose the post secondary institution that is the best fit for them. There are 25% of PSEO students that attend PSEO classes at faith based institutions, and the law already only allows these schools to receive funding for non-sectarian courses. With the increase in students accessing PSEO classes, by forcing students away from faith based colleges it will increase the competition for PSEO spots at secular universities, limiting the choices available to all students. Finally, noone is obligated to attend a faith-based college for PSEO; there are many state-wide options to choose from for PSEO credits.

Again, I am opposed to the amendment to SF-1311 as it stands, and would ask that you reconsider.

Thank you for your consideration.

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