

Dear Legislator

We are writing to express our opposition to the amendment to SF 1311 and ask that they 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.

Our daughter currently participates in PSEO courses at Crown College and Northwestern College and this would directly harm her education as well as the education of 25% of students participating in PSEO.

It is our choice as a family that our daughter participate in PSEO at a school that requires a faith statement. This change in legislation would infringe on our religious freedoms and, again, harm our daughter and thousands of Minnesota students. By removing these institutions students will lose the option to take PSEO courses as PSEO spots will become more limited.

PSEO has allowed students to graduate college with less debt and has made 4-year degrees an option for students who would not otherwise be able to pursue this level of education. Students have a choice to choose a faith-based institution or to choose a non faith-based institution. This choice is consistent with the freedoms afforded citizens of this country.

We would like for our letter to be included as part of the written testimony for the Wednesday March 8th hearing.

Sincerely,

Dean and Christa Waymire
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