

March 07, 2023

Sen Steve Cwodzinski

95 University Avenue W.

Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3207

St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Education Policy Committee Chair Cwodzinski,

This is our written testimony and I'm asking for you to add this to the written record.

We oppose 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.

These are our reasons for our opposition to this bill:

- We want students to have the freedom to choose the post secondary institution that is the best fit for them.
- 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.
- Students are entering adulthood with much less college debt because of this program.
- Students state-wide have many choices about what institutions from which to get their PSEO credits, so no one is obligated to attend a faith-based college for PSEO.

Minnesota has a rich history of high education standards. Please help keep it this way.

Sincerely,

Andrew and Jen Lundquist

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Edina MN