

Dear Senator,

I am writing to express my opposition to the amendment of SF 1311 and I 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 student has greatly benefited from educational opportunities offered through PSEO classes while still an enrolled student at her high school. This year my student, through her PSEO class, was able to get a taste of a college level course in her prospective college major and did she ever excel! We are so very grateful for this option and hope you will protect the current language of the legislation as I stated earlier.

This is about choices and flexibility. Because of the PSEO options available to my student, she had the freedom to **choose** the post secondary institution that was the best fit for her. Beyond that, one-quarter of PSEO students take their PSEO class(es) at faith-based institutions. If you remove the faith-based college option, there will be increased competition for a limited number of spots at the remaining colleges and universities. The PSEO model is attractive, for many reasons, not the least of which is entering adulthood with much less college debt. Finally, no one is obligated to attend a faith-based college for PSEO. Currently, choices abound, permitting needed flexibility and choice.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. To be clear, this is both my position and my request:

I oppose the amendment of SF 1311 and I 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.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Carter
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