

April 8, 2025

RE: The Senate Delete All Amendment to SF2255 removed all funding for STARBASE

Dear Ms. Zellmer

My name is Nicolle Gilbertson and I am an educator proudly employed by Moose Lake Elementary School. Moose Lake Elementary is a small school that serves approximately 300 students k-6. We pride ourselves on providing a high quality education experience to all of our students. The experiences range from community member visits, hands on outdoor education activities, and amazing field trip experiences. Over the past several years, our 5th grade students have had the amazing opportunity to participate in the STARBASE program. STARBASE is an immersive STEM experience that inspires students well beyond their week long experience in the program.

I am strongly opposed to SF2255, which will remove funding for STARBASE. This program introduces students to STEM experiences in a way that is not always possible inside a typical classroom. Students are immersed in experiments that push their knowledge of physics, maths, and chemistry. STARBASE is truly an experience our students need, especially when we consider our ever changing technological environment.

I appreciate your help, and I ask that you please send me a response letting me know that you are able to oppose the cut to this funding.

Sincerely,

Nicolle Gilbertson  
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Moose Lake, MN