

Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee;

My name is Andrew Wittig, and I am a sophomore at Riverdale High School. I am opposed to HB2748 because I wish to continue to attend my current school. I live outside of Riverdale School District, but my parents choose to pay tuition to allow me to attend Riverdale because of the superior education I am receiving there.

I enjoy the small class sizes, excellent teachers, and wide array of additional programs offered by Riverdale that would otherwise be unavailable to me. For example, the Field Studies opportunities that allow students to have various cultural and personal growth experiences, like Wildhorse Canyon. Wildhorse Canyon is unique among most high schools as it allows the freshman class to grow together, which makes the Riverdale community a much friendlier and comfortable environment for all students as they go through the high school experience.

The small class sizes there allow for more teacher attention, and better retention of the course material. The educators there are some of the very best, teaching more advanced concepts and skills than would otherwise be taught in other public high schools. It should also be mentioned that Riverdale is able to afford these better educators and experiences is by charging tuition to the large amount of out-of-district students that attend.

For me personally, HB2748 would mean having to move to a much more crowded and larger high school and having to incorporate myself into new social groups and a new school community. It would mean a distinct decrease in the quality of my education as well.

I also feel strongly that it should be my own choice to be able to attend whatever school I wish if I have the means to. My personal reaction to this bill was thinking that it seems rather arbitrary to prohibit the practice of letting students attend schools out-of-district.

Justified by all of these reasons I would like to personally ask you to oppose House Bill 2748.

Sincerely,

Andrew Wittig