

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan and members of the Education & Cultural Affairs Committee, my name is Nicholas Fikus, I am 10 years old and I am testifying in SUPPORT of LD 51.

I support this bill because I want to go back to school. I see my big brother and sister go to school everyday and they always talk about their friends and the fun they have at school all day. I have only a couple friends and I mostly learn alone. I don't really like learning alone, it makes me feel different and I feel like a weird kid.

Since I have to be homeschooled, my mom can't work because she has to teach me. My dad had to get a bigger job that has many hours and he has to go on long business trips for the military. I feel really sad when he is away and I miss him.

Please let me go back to school so I can have friends and my dad back.

Thank you for listening.

Nick J. Fikus