



February 12, 2019

To: Sen. Briese & the Revenue Committee
From: Colby Coash, Director of Government Relations
Re: A note prior to LB 314

Sen. Briese and members of the Revenue Committee

Prior to Thursday's hearing on LB 314 I wanted to communicate NASB's support of LB 314 as currently written and look forward to having our testimony as part of the permanent record for this bill.

NASB's support stems from our position that this bill helps all children through the increased reimbursement of special education. In addition, the bill does not contain growth or spending caps, the primary sticking point that resulted in Neutral testimony last year. Provisions that hamper growing districts through caps do not align with one of NASB's standing positions which reads: "NASB supports legislation which would establish an education expenditures 'growth factors' which reflects the actual cost of providing a public education for school districts, learning communities, and ESUs."

As an association of elected board members from all districts, NASB will continue to advocate for bills that supports all districts across the State. Any imposition of growth or spending caps would result in NASBs withdraw of support. Similarly, if the provisions adding revenue for the purposes of increasing special education reimbursement are eliminated, NASB would withdraw its support as well.

NASB is hopeful that LB 314 moves through the legislative process with the current provisions of reimbursement in place.

Please let me know if you have any questions.