

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 445. My name is Katelyn Atsma and I am from Medina County.

As a parent to 3 boys, I feel it is important for my children to have the ability to hear the Word of God during their normal school hours. My middle child was able to experience Lifewise this past school year (his grade was one of the approved grades in our district) and he loved it. He was able to hear Bible stories amongst his peers. A classmate of his lost his dad over Christmas break and my son was adamant about his classmate joining him at Lifewise as he was certain that it would bring a smile to his face and his heart knowing that Jesus was there for him. That little boy was signed up on the last day that registration was open and my son said that he could tell that his friend felt loved.

I would love to see Lifewise available for all grades, in all 3 schools. With the amount of evil in this world it is important to reinforce God in any way that we can for this younger generation.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for House Bill 445.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Atsma