



Proponent HB 2658

February 13, 2024

Dear Education Committee members,

I write to express my support for HB 2658 and wanted to thank you for your consideration and time. The current statute's provision allowing students who bring weapons to school, even with malicious intent, to return after a mere 186-day expulsion period raises grave concerns regarding student safety and the overall educational environment.

I propose an amendment to Kansas Statue 72-6115 that would empower school districts to place students who bring weapons to school, particularly with harmful intent, into a virtual learning environment. One size does not fit all in terms of students transitioning from an expulsion and we must consider the safety of all other students, staff, and community members.

Having witnessed firsthand the fear among students, parents, and teachers stemming from the prospect of a student returning to school after bringing a weapon, it is imperative to consider the perspectives of various stakeholders: the student who reported the incident, the classmates who learned of the weapon's presence with ill intentions, the concerned parents, and the teachers who bear the responsibility of maintaining a safe learning environment.

In light of these considerations, granting school districts the autonomy to transition such students into virtual learning environments is not only a proactive measure to ensure safety but also an investment in the well-being and peace of mind of our educational community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your dedication to fostering a secure and conducive learning environment for all students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Moulin".

Rick Moulin
Deputy Superintendent

Rick Moulin/Deputy Superintendent
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