



900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 600  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212  
(785) 296-3203  
www.ksde.org

Danny Zeck  
District 1

Melanie Haas  
District 2

Michelle Dombrosky  
District 3

Ann E. Mah  
District 4

Cathy Hopkins  
District 5

Dr. Deena Horst  
District 6

Dennis Hershberger  
District 7

Betty J. Arnold  
District 8

Jim Porter  
District 9

Jim McNiece  
District 10

## **OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY HB 2641**

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

House Education Committee

Kansas State Board of Education, Liaisons, Ann Mah and Deena Horst

Chairman Thomas and Committee members:

Thank you for allowing us to testify on behalf of the Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE) in opposition to HB 2641. HB 2641 proposes to provide prescriptive guidance to local boards of education regarding how privately owned electronic communication devices shall be used at schools.

While the KSBE has no formal position on the use of such devices in schools, it does have a very strong position in support of local boards of education and their authority to make such policy decisions. Some local boards have already put such policies in place, and we believe the Legislature has no authority to override those policies. The use of electronic communication devices in schools is something that is not a “one-size-fits-all” issue and does not have a “one-size-fits-all” answer. Such things are best left to those closest to the issue.

We appreciate your time and hope the Committee will oppose HB 2641.