

**Cale R. Prater, Concerned Parent**

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**HB 2506, Proponent**

**Date of Hearing: 1/24/2024**

To the Committee Members:

Thank you for taking the time to read about my concerns, and why I am a proponent of the House Bill 2506, which would authorize students enrolled in virtual schools to participate in activities that are regulated by the Kansas state high school activities association at such student's resident school district without a minimum enrollment requirement.

The issue at hand has been a direct concern of mine as my daughter, who is currently a high school sophomore enrolled at Manhattan Virtual Academy, is also a passionate and talented softball pitcher. We currently live within the Wamego school district.

In our current situation, the only way that our daughter could play high school softball is to be enrolled at Wamego for at least one class. However, Manhattan Virtual does not accept part time students. Therefore, enrolling in a class at Wamego is an impossibility. Therefore, my daughter's opportunities in her sport are being greatly reduced—basically limited to travel club ball. While we take advantage of travel ball, it would radically open up her opportunities if she were able to play high school ball.

Please consider passing HB 2506 so my daughter and the multitude of virtual students like her can have the opportunity to play high school sports. As a parent, I should have the right to enroll my child in the educational program that suits her individual needs and still take advantage of the athletic programs that I support through my tax dollars.