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NEUTRAL IN-PERSON TESTIMONY ON HB 2594

COMMITTEE ON K-12 EDUCATION BUDGET

Hearing on Monday January 29, 2024

SUBMITTED BY ANN MAH AND DR. DEENA HORST

Kansas State Board of Education Liaisons

Chairperson Kristey Williams and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing our testimony on HB 2594 today. The Kansas State Board of Education is not opposed to beginning the process now of determining what is to become our future school finance formula. However, we believe the makeup of the education funding task force needs adjustment. For example, there are apparently no members who are experts in school finance.

The State Board is also opposed to eliminating the special education and related services funding task force. Determining special education costs is a complicated and technical issue. The current task force has the right people in place to do a credible job of reviewing the current formula and making recommendations. The proposed task force does not.

We look forward to participating in the discussion going forward.