



Kansas PTA
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February 6, 2023

Written Testimony to House Education Budget Committee
Honorable Chair, Representative Adam Thomas
Deborah Bremer, Committee Assistant
785-296-3113, Deborah.Bremer@house.ks.gov
Room 286-N, State Capitol Building

Neutral with Encouragement [House Bill 2163](#) – Restoring Due Process
Hearing: Monday, February 6, 2023, 1:30 PM Room 218-N

Honorable Chairman Thomas and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding HB 2163 – Restoring teacher due process. While Kansas PTA is supportive of due process, we are neutral on this bill.

One of the Kansas PTA Standing Positions is Supporting Educators. Kansas PTA supports efforts to attract and retain educators, including state funding for teacher mentoring, meaningful professional development and the time to engage, as well as other evidenced-based programs and policies that promote quality instruction ([see Kansas PTA Standing Positions and Legislative Priorities](#)). The right to due process can ensure that teachers are treated fairly, professionally, and not subjected to arbitrary or subjective employment decisions. This is particularly relevant given recent bills introduced in the Kansas legislature, such as [Senate Bill 393](#) – Publication of Materials with Financial Penalty just last session.

In the same manner, Kansas PTA Legislative Priority 1 is to uphold the Kansas Constitution. Kansas PTA supports efforts to preserve the Kansas Constitution. This includes Article VI, regarding public education, to protect non-partisan elections of local school board members and to uphold their local control, to retain legislators' obligation to provide suitable finance for ongoing educational improvement, as well as State Board of Education oversight of state education standards and accreditations.

For these reasons, the Kansas PTA strongly encourages local school boards to adopt teacher due process. Thank you for your consideration.

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THE PTA POSITION

Kansas PTA is a nonpartisan association that promotes the welfare of children and youth. The PTA does not endorse any candidate or political party. Rather, we advocate for policies and legislation that affect Kansas youth in alignment with our legislative platform and priorities. [PTA mission and purpose](#) have remained the same since our inception over 100 years ago, focused on facilitating every child's potential and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.