

Jerry Henn Assistant Executive Director - USA-Kansas and Kansas School Superintendents Association providing oral testimony.

Committee Chair Williams and K-12 Committee Members

Thank you for allowing USA Kansas and KSSA to provide oral testimony on HB 2382. As written, we stand opposed to this bill.

As we read this bill, this opens up board meetings and would bypass KORA requirements guaranteed in the Kansas Constitution.

Being able to add any item to the agenda at any time before a meeting violates KORA requirements to only talk about items on the agenda. This reduces transparency from a board to it's community. It would diminish the ability of the superintendent and the board members to prepare and have appropriate data to have an informed conversation on the "pop-up" agenda item. This bill would also remove the authority of the board president to preside over the board at meetings. With a challenge coming from anyone, a board member could possibly turn over their cell phone should a data request be asked of them.

We have no comment on this bill's license plate portion because we are unsure how this relates to an education bill. We believe this is just a diversion to the context of the bill. The license plate portion of the bill only provides a distraction.

We believe bills should be clean and only discuss the bill's intent.

A board meeting should focus on policy, budget, student success and accountability, far too often, items discussed at the board table from community comments would be more appropriately discussed with a teacher, school administrator, or at a school site council meeting. This bill tends to take away the focus of a board's general direction. The possibility of issues getting in the way of successful board meetings could be at a higher rate and possibly from people outside of the district.

For these reasons, USA-Kansas is opposed to HB 2382.