

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Vote No on SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:59:56

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Tara Shipley <shipleytara029@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 10:33 PM
To: Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Vote No on SB 83

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Name: Tara Shipley
Email: shipleytara029@gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

***if there are no school choice options in your county/district, please make sure to state that. If that is the case nothing about this bill will help your community.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Tara Shipley
Lenexa, Johnson

From: [David](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: SB83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 06:27:05

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Please ask the Committee to vote "NO" on this bill.

David & Janet Loftus
11624 Grant Drive
Overland Park, KS 66210

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Written Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:03:11

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Amy Carter <carteam17@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:21 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Written Opposition to SB 83

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Name: Amy Carter

Email: carteam17@yahoo.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

Providing families already choosing to send their children to private schools with additional tax credits is an abuse of our public tax dollars.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am also disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Amy Carter

Overland Park, Johnson County

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Vote NO on SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:00:25

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Angie Powers <angierpowers@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 9:55 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Vote NO on SB 83

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Name: Angie Powers
Email: angierpowers@gmail.com
Written Opposition to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Dear Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

Please vote no on SB 83. As a proud public school educator, I understand the impact this bill would have on public schools, those schools that educate EVERY student.

SB 83 was originally supposed to help low-income families, but families earning up to \$120,000 would also be eligible for these credits, indicating that the bill is intended to reimburse families who already send their children to private schools.

Diverting public funds away from our public schools would only exacerbate existing inequalities. Olathe is the largest school district in Kansas, and I have been a proud teacher in this district for 20 years. I have seen the wide diversity of students we serve, and siphoning public funds away from public schools to other institutions that can simply say "no" to accepting a student harms the public good.

Invest in public schools rather than weakening them in order to benefit schools that can choose their students.

Thank you for your public service and attention to input on this important matter. Kansas is known for its exemplary public schools, and SB 83 puts them at risk.

Sincerely,

Angie Powers

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Written Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:55:53

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Anna Watkins <anna_wat@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:33 AM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Written Opposition to SB 83

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote against SB 83, a bill that would allocate public tax dollars towards private tuition or private tuition tax credits. As a special educator and occupational therapist at Kansas City Kansas Public Schools and active member of the community, I am deeply concerned about the potential impact of this bill on our students and schools.

While this bill was initially marketed as a way to provide opportunities for low-income families, it has become clear that families earning up to \$120,000 would be eligible for these credits. This removes any true "low-income" requirement and instead seems to be aimed at reimbursing families who are already sending their children to private schools.

In KCKPS we serve a diverse student body with varying needs. As educators, we work hard to ensure that all of our students receive the support and resources they need to succeed. It can be very disheartening when we are not able to support students and families who already face systemic barriers the way we would like to due to a lack of resources. Diverting public funds away from our public schools and towards private schools only serves to exacerbate the existing inequalities within our education system.

I am also deeply disappointed by the lack of transparency and public input surrounding this bill. As someone who cares deeply about the future of our community, I believe that any legislation impacting our schools should be subject to thorough review and debate. We need more time to carefully consider the potential consequences of this bill and to ensure that our voices are heard.

I urge you to reject SB 83 and instead focus on policies that support public education in Kansas City and across the state. Our public schools are the foundation of our communities and the key to

unlocking the potential of our students. Let us work together to ensure that every child has access to a high-quality education, regardless of their background or economic status.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.
Sincerely,

Anna Watkins

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Written Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:01:15

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: cclifford@usd440.com <cclifford@usd440.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 9:37 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Written Opposition to SB 83

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Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

***if there are no school choice options in your county/district, please make sure to state that. If that is the case nothing about this bill will help your community.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Claire Clifford
Halstead, Harvey

Sent from my iPhone

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March 1st, 2023

Written Testimony to the Committee on K12 Education Budget
Opponent Senate Bill 83

Madame Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition of SB 83.

I am writing to express my concern regarding SB 83 and respectfully request you vote against it. I believe public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or provide private tuition tax credits. Although this bill was initially intended to help low-income families, it now includes families of four earning up to \$120,000, which is 400% above the poverty level. This change effectively eliminates any "low-income status," indicating that the bill was not designed to assist low-income students but to reimburse families already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who actively participates in our political process, I am disappointed this bill was not given enough time and transparency to allow for accurate voter testimony to be submitted in a timely manner. If the bill is to stand on its own, Kansans should be given adequate time to express their support or opposition.

Furthermore, after providing oral testimony to HB2218 and being called up for additional questions, I was told the low-income students in my district who were not achieving adequate progress on state assessments deserved an alternative. In all due respect, I ask by what measures will private schools will be held accountable? How will you know when this 'experiment' has been a success or failure unless all schools are held to the exact same standards? If your answer is private schools should not be held to the same scrutiny as public schools, then I would suggest any conversation regarding state assessments for any district be avoided in any future dialog.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Craig Correll

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no on SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families to access private schools, but now families of four making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but it was used to reimburse families already sending their children to private schools.

There are no private school choices in Coffey County. Nothing about this bill will help our community.

As a life-long Kansan and a servant educator for the past 32 years that is involved in our political process, I am very disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Sincerely,

Craig Marshall
Superintendent
USD 244 Burlington, KS
620-364-8478
GO CATS!!!

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From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to SB 83 - please support public schools!
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:57:34

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Donna Martin <defmartin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 6:37 AM
To: Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>; Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Opposition to SB 83 - please support public schools!

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Name: Donna E Field Martin

Email: defmartin@gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families to have private education options, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to

private schools. This bill is detrimental to our public school system, which I believe is one of the best assets we have had in Kansas.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition. Please govern in a fair and transparent fashion.

Respectfully,

Donna E. Field Martin

Leawood, Johnson County

Opponent Testimony of SB 83
for the House K-12 Education Budget Committee
March 2nd, 2023
Erin Gould
Resident of Roeland Park, Kansas

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee;

I am writing today because I am opposed to any expansion to the tax credit scholarship program and urge you to vote NO on this bill.

There Is Harm

There are some who say that because this program doesn't take money *directly* away from the General Fund or because it is money that the state *never received* in the first place it is somehow not taking money away from the state so there is no fiscal harm. This is a particularly cynical and self-serving view which deliberately ignores the fact that tax credits are a significant reduction in a person or entity's tax bill. In the absence of these credits, some or all of the taxes that would have gone to Kansas' general fund.

This bill, as written, is nothing more than a way to subsidize private educational choices with public money.

Here's an example of how it will work:

- A family of four with an income of \$110,000 owes \$10,000 in private school tuition.
- They are encouraged to donate the value of their tuition to a TCS.
- Because their income is below 400% federal poverty level (\$111,000 in 2022) their children will qualify for scholarships.
- Tuition is given to the private school by the TCS.
- Because they filtered their tuition through at TCS, the family receives \$7,500 (75% of their tuition payment) from Kansas in the form of a tax credit, effectively reducing their tuition bill to \$2,500.
- If they owe less than \$7,500 in Kansas tax (which they likely do, given their income), they pay no state tax (probably for several years) until the amount they owe in tax exceeds their credit.

This cycle can be repeated each year, preventing Kansas from collecting taxes needed to pay not only for education but for other vital services that serve all Kansans.

Allowing up to \$20 million in tax dollars to evaporate this way so a few children can attend a private (probably religious) school is a dereliction of this committee's obligation to work towards the betterment of Kansas and education programs that serve ALL Kansas children.

Tax Credits for Private Services are Strange in Any Other Context

I can't help but feel like this program is one that sacrifices income that could be used to serve all Kansans in order to support a minority's private choices and that's weird and wrong.

If we use this mechanism to fund private school attendance, why not other private choices? Some people don't like public transportation and want to use a private car. Kansas could set up private car granting organizations. You may think this is a farcical example, but it is not. It is exactly the same thing as what this bill proposes. My local community pays for public transportation. The state pays for public education. I don't like public transportation, I want to use a car. I don't like public schools, I want my child to attend a private one. If I give to an organization that funds private school tuition, I get a tax credit. If I give to an organization that

gives certain people cars, I get a tax credit. How is it different? The same mechanism could be set up for lots for other things but because schools and kids are involved, we are made to feel that it is somehow different but it is not. We are not “saving kids”, we are facilitating unnecessary tax diversion and funding private choices.

What's the Point and How Will We Know It's Working?

When the TCS program was first proposed and passed, we were told the point of the program was only to lift up a minority of the poorest public elementary school students. The parameters were narrow. It wasn't long before the parameters shifted. Today, the TCS is open to K-8 students. This bill proposes including high school students. The TCS is currently only for families that qualified for free or reduced lunch (130% and 185% of federal poverty guidelines, respectively). This bill is proposing a jump to 400% of federal poverty guidelines. That's \$111,000 for a family of four. The parameters keep shifting and it's clear that growing the program is the point. The broader the parameters, the more kids that qualify and the more attractive Kansas is to the private school industry. They are the true beneficiaries of this plan, not kids.

As a taxpayer, I am concerned that this bill grows a program that encourages private schools to set up shop in our state by giving them taxpayer dollars without fiscal oversight. In any other circumstance, this legislature would expect thorough reporting in exchange for public funds. It is irresponsible not to put financial reporting requirements on participating schools. Similarly, this bill does nothing to protect children and ensure they are getting an appropriate education. Facilitating the move to private schools without setting educational standards and requiring participating private schools to prove they are meeting state-established educational goals risks the future of any child enrolled in the program. Any school receiving tax dollars, even indirectly, should be required to provide student progress data sufficient to prove their students learning as expected. Without data, Kansas is throwing money away and risking the futures of the young scholars you seek to protect.

Public schools are one of Kansas' strengths. If families of public school children find room for improvement, then please work to make those improvements so all Kansas children can thrive. Families who feel they want an educational experience that more closely aligns with their personal values and beliefs outside the public schools should always have that option to do so. However, I urge you to remember it is not the obligation of the state to fund private choices made in lieu of public services and to vote no on this bill.

Written Opposition to SB 83

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Iridescent Sylva Riffel
Lawrence, KS

Jeri Powers

jeriopowers@gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: March 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty line.

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As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Jeri Powers
Shawnee, Johnson

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: SB 83 - opposition
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:00:44

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Karen Tritt <kmtritt@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 9:47 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>
Subject: SB 83 - opposition

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Karen Tritt
kmtritt@gmail.com

SB 83 – written testimony in opposition
Hearing date/time: March 2, 2023; 3:30pm

Members of K-12 House Education Budget Committee:

Please reject SB 83. This bill began as a tax credit that was touted to help “low income” families. It has been amended to become just a tax credit for those parents who are already sending their students to a private school. Again, this is public dollars for private education.

With a new ceiling of 400% over the poverty level, the beneficiaries of this bill are no longer low-income families. The beneficiaries are those parents who already have their children enrolled in private schools.

Please do not allow any funds from public tax dollars to be diverted into private education.

Karen Tritt

2010 Kansas Teacher of the Year

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:44:54

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Kate Carter-Brown <kate.garrett2030@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:49 AM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: SB 83

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Name: Kate Carter-Brown
Email: kate.garrett2030@Gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. As a teacher I am disheartened by the lack of faith and goodwill towards our public schools. Schools should be the cornerstone of our communities and provide equitable services to all students. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Kate Carter-Brown

Roeland Park, Ks (Johnson County)

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to SB 83 - Vote No
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:45:41

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Kellie Bubeck <kellie.bubeck@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:36 AM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Cc: Rui Xu <Rui.Xu@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Opposition to SB 83 - Vote No

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Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Senate Bill 83 and any other voucher bills that may come up. I was born and raised in Olathe, Kansas, and am fortunate to have attended Olathe public schools for my entire education. The quality education I received in Kansas public schools provided the foundation for my life, including my pursuit of higher education.

I am now an attorney and mother of three children, all of whom will attend Kansas public schools. I request that you please vote no on Senate Bill 83 because it will hurt public education and reduce the opportunities for other children in the state to receive a quality public education.

Senate Bill 83 will divert public tax dollars to private schools at a time when legislators should be focused on the **\$160 million shortfall in special education funding**. The state should fully fund special education, not private schools. Using public taxpayer dollars for private schools drains the public schools of needed resources for successful student learning.

Public tax dollars are for the public good. It is no coincidence that many young couples who live in Kansas City, Missouri move to Kansas once they start having children because of the high-quality public schools.

We also need to consider the long-term implications of this bill. If we are not funding our public schools appropriately, we will have a generation of less-educated citizens, which affects us all.

In addition, this bill will disproportionately affect rural students as there are few options for private schools outside of the Kansas City metropolitan area. Voucher programs do not offer parents a real choice. Private schools pick and choose who they accept. Public schools accept all students.

Quality public schools benefit more than just families with children. They increase our property values. Without quality public schools, fewer individuals will be inclined to move to Kansas, which will ultimately result in a smaller tax base for the state.

Furthermore, Senate Bill 83 lacks oversight and provides no review process to evaluate how students are utilizing our taxpayer dollars at private or home schools. Taxpayer dollars should require the same oversight and transparency as our public schools. Continued research demonstrates that private school vouchers do not improve student achievement.

I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

I respectfully request that you vote no on Senate Bill 83. This bill will negatively impact not only students, but all Kansans.

Sincerely,
Kellie Bubeck
Mission Hills, KS

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:07:52

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Kelly Reed <kreed@emberhope.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 4:46 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Opposition to SB 83

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Written Opposition to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Kelly Reed
Buhler, Reno

Kelly Reed | Director of Information Systems | EmberHope, Inc.

PO Box 210 | 900 W Broadway | Newton, KS 67114

T 316.202.1746 | C 620.334.0533

emberhope.org

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trauma sensitive programs rooted in faith to inspire positive change.*

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March 1, 2023

Testimony to the House K-12 Education Budget Committee

NAME: Kimberly Martin, RN, MEd, BSN

TITLE: Elementary Nurse in a Title 1 Public Elementary School in Johnson County

EMAIL ADDRESS: kimberlysmartin@gmail.com

BILL NUMBER: SB 83, Tax Credit Scholarship Expansion

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written Only

Honorable Chair Williams & members of the committee,

I know this testimony is coming in less than the required 48 hours' notice period, but this hearing was not announced until this afternoon, and the hearing is tomorrow. Please consider this testimony.

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 83.

Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to provide funding for at risk students, especially those of low income, to be able to have a choice a private school if it better met their needs. It has now been amended to include families of 4 making \$120,00 per year. This is 400% of the poverty level. This removes any low-income status, which shows the bill was never intended to help at-risk students. I work in a Title 1, ELL school and if this bill passes, funding for at-risk students and special education services will likely be cut. This harms at-risk students; it does not help them.

Private schools are under no obligation to accept all students, and they have zero accountability standards they must meet. The very students this bill claims to help, are the ones who will be left out in the cold, when the private school decides they do not want to deal with a language barrier, behavior disorder, need for an IEP or SPED services or any other reason they choose not to accept that student. When we give public dollars to private schools, funding for our highly rated public schools will be cut, and we will not be able to adequately fund these needed services for all students. Parents of children who need SPED services are vehemently opposed to these bills as their children are time and again refused entry to a private school because the private school finds it too difficult to accommodate them. Public schools are required to accept all students and offer them appropriate services.

Please vote no on SB 83, my English Language Learning, Title 1 students, deserve proper public school funding. They don't deserve to be further harmed by decreased funding because we have given money to private schools.

Kimberly Martin RN, MEd, BSN
Overland Park, Kansas



KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION / 715 SW 10TH AVENUE / TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1686

Lauren Tice Miller
Lauren.TiceMiller@knea.org
Director of Government Relations & Elections
Opponent – Written Testimony
House Committee on K-12 Education Budget
Senate Bill 83
March 2, 2023

Chairwoman Williams, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 83.

Kansas NEA has opposed these tax credits since their origin years ago. This bill is not about helping low-income children. It is nothing more than a tax break for wealthy Kansans and corporations on the backs of Kansas public schools and their students. Particularly now after it was amended on the floor of the Senate to expand eligibility to students from families at 400% above the poverty level (\$120,000 for a family of four).

Under Senate Bill 83 as amended, a corporation or wealthy individual can contribute up to the maximum of \$100,000 in a year and the state will grant that corporation or individual a 75% tax credit. This means \$75,000 of the contribution is knocked off the donor's tax liability. If the donor owes less than that amount in taxes, the remainder can be carried into the future and used against later tax liability. There is no other charitable tax credit in Kansas like this.

Proponents of this "scholarship program" will argue that no money is being taken away from public schools. That is technically true. Instead, it is a shell game. This provides up to \$20 million in tax credits for donors who make contributions to "scholarship granting organizations" who then turn around and give it to a student in the form of a "scholarship," which is spent at participating private schools. This program takes public dollars away from the state general fund for the purpose of supplementing the budgets of private schools.

These private schools get to be selective on the students they accept. A brief review of admissions policies of schools currently participating in the "scholarship" program shows how these schools reserve the right to discriminate against children based on their religion as well as their needs, abilities, and academic performance. Taxpayer dollars should not be helping cover the costs of these discriminatory practices.

Since its inception, more than \$21 million in tax credits have been granted through this program, but what have Kansans gotten for it? As legislators you often ask about the return on investment related to programs. You question whether our public schools are producing results worthy of your investment. You ask what the relationship is between spending and learning outcomes. Yet, in this bill, you are willing to expand a program and give away millions more in taxpayer money to schools that will never report results to you.

SB 83 expands a program that does not benefit all Kansas students. Instead, it encourages cherry picking of students by private schools, and it allows state dollars to be used to send children to unaccountable, and often for-profit private schools.

We urge you to reject this bill and return the millions of dollars to the state general fund for the purpose of serving all Kansans.

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: SB83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:04:46

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Leigh Anne Rogers <4xrogers@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 7:15 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: SB83

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Leigh Anne Rogers
4xrogers@gmail.com

Written opposition to SB83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar 2, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,
I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was meant to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level. This removes any 'low income status' proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansas public school educator, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony could be provided.

Respectfully,
Leigh Anne Rogers

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:57:06

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Lindy Mantooth <lswatzel@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 7:57 AM
To: Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Opposition to SB 83

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Name: Lindy Mantooth
Email: lswatzel@gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to **vote no to SB 83**. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

***if there are no school choice options in your county/district, please make sure to state that. If that is the case nothing about this bill will help your community.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, **I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time**. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Lindy Mantooth

Overland Park, Johnson County

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Vote no on SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:41:57

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Gary & Lynn Christian <garylynn.christian@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 10:11 AM
To: Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Vote no on SB 83

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[Email:garylynn.christian@gmail.com](mailto:garylynn.christian@gmail.com)

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

Lynn Christian- Lenexa, KS

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:00:11

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Mandy Neddo <mbeeson_2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 10:20 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Opposition to SB 83

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Name: Mandy Neddo
Email: mbeeson_2000@yahoo.com
Written Opposition to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm
Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,
I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.
This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.
***if there are no school choice options in your county/district, please make sure to state that. If that is the case nothing about this bill will help your community.
As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Mandy Neddo
Overland Park, Johnson County

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:08:13

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Melissa Evans <maldo32.mm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 4:16 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Opposition to SB 83

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Name: Melissa Evans
Email: maldo32.mm@gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the K-12 House Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Melissa Evans

Hutchinson, Reno County

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Written Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:32:22

Dave Long
Committee Assistant
House Health and Human Services Committee
785-296-7488

From: Mitch Bringle <mitchbringle@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 11:11 AM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Written Opposition to SB 83

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Name:

Email:

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

Please STOP MISLEADING the citizens of Kansas for personal gain, or political points.

***if there are no school choice options in your county/district, please make sure to state that. If that is the case nothing about this bill will help your community.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am VERY disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time.

If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,

Mitchell Bringle
Hutchinson, Reno County

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:03:39

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Pam Rivera <privera77@cox.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:23 PM
To: Pam Rivera <privera77@cox.net>
Subject: SB 83

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Dear Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

Please vote no on SB 83, a bill that would use public tax dollars to fund private tuition or provide private tuition tax credits. Here's why:

SB 83 was supposed to help low-income families, but families earning up to \$120,000 would also be eligible for these credits, indicating that the bill is intended to reimburse families who already send their children to private schools.

Diverting public funds away from our public schools would only exacerbate existing inequalities. Wichita is the largest school district in Kansas and serves a diverse student body with varying needs.

We need policies that support public education and ensure that every child has access to a high-quality education.

Any legislation impacting our schools should be subject to thorough review and debate to ensure transparency and public input.

Invest in public schools, not private education.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Pamela Rivera

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Written Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:05:46

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Rebecca Cole <beckyshops@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 6:19 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Written Opposition to SB 83

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Name: Rebecca Cole
Email: beckyshops@yahoo.com

Written Opposition to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Rebecca Cole
Parsons Kansas.
Labette County

Samantha Neill
sjneill13@gmail.com
Written Opposition Testimony to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the K-12 House Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. This was originally designed to be a bill for "low income" families. That designation has been removed and amended to over 400% above the poverty guidelines. This is now just a tax credit for private schools for those who are already sending their students to these institutions. Public tax dollars should not be sent to private institutions with no oversight or accountability.

This bill was brought up to be worked by committee with less than 48 hours notice. If it was a bill that can stand on it's own, what is the rush? Why not allow for testimony to be submitted and for the process to proceed to give Kansans time to engage in the political process.

This is not a bill that will benefit the majority of Kansas students. This is not a bill that the majority of Kansas supports. I ask that you redirect your efforts to funding Special Education.

Respectfully,
Samantha Neill
2018 Kansas Teacher of the Year
2021 Lowell Milken Fellow
20-Year Public Teaching Veteran

Dear K-12 Education Committee Members,

My name is Sean Crittendon. I am a resident, school board member, business owner, youth advocate, and registered voter in Atchison County.

I have been following the activity of SB 83 and HB2218. I am writing in support of our local public schools. I would ask that you do not proceed with this scholarship bill that will divert an estimated \$150 million dollars in public funds from public schools.

This bill should have never been passed out of committee. Of the 296 pieces of testimony shared with the committee, only 26 supported the bill. Over 90% of testimony was in opposition of “student scholarships” - 252 of those opposed were from local citizens in Kansas.

In reviewing the activity being considered in committee including this current bill, it appears that outside special interest groups are trying to influence the Kansas Legislature in defunding Public K-12 Education in our State once again. SB83 is promoted by lawmakers on the committee as a way for more Kansas students to access higher quality education, but it does not consider the guidance and parameters currently set within the State Constitution regarding public education. This attempt to defund public education and create a system that is separate and unequal is beyond concerning.

In theory, “student scholarships” for public education may sound great on the surface to some, but in reality, they are harmful to public education, especially to our rural inner city schools. We must remember that this is not just about our kids, our friends’ kids, our neighbors, or those solely in our community. As Kansan’s, we have an obligation to provide adequate and equitable education for all in our great State. It is my hope that we can all come together and fully support public education and our public schools. Our overall goal should be to improve outcomes for all, so no one is left out or behind.

Again, I am opposed to any legislation that diverts money away from our public schools. It is clear that Kansas citizens do not want this to be the direction of education in Kansas.

Respectfully,

Sean P. Crittendon

1703 Jayhawk Drive

Atchison, Kansas 66002

skcrittendon@gmail.com

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Vote No!
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:06:09

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Sheli Carey <shelicarey67501@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 6:15 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Vote No!

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Name: Sheli Carey

[Email:shelicarey67501@gmail.com](mailto:shelicarey67501@gmail.com)

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Sheli Carey
Hutchinson.Ks.

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: say no
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:07:17

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Sheri Corwin <corwinsa@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 5:36 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>
Subject: say no

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Name: Sheri Corwin
Email: corwinsa@gmail.com
Written Opposition to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House k-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Sheri Corwin
City, County

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Written Opposition to SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:02:38

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Tabitha Frey <frey.tabitha@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 9:32 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Written Opposition to SB 83

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Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Dear Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

Please vote no on SB 83, a bill that would use public tax dollars to fund private tuition or provide private tuition tax credits. Here's why:

SB 83 was supposed to help low-income families, but families earning up to \$120,000 would also be eligible for these credits, indicating that the bill is intended to reimburse families who already send their children to private schools.

Diverting public funds away from our public schools would only exacerbate existing inequalities. Wichita is the largest school district in Kansas and serves a diverse student body with varying needs.

We need policies that support public education and ensure that every child has access to a high-quality education.

Any legislation impacting our schools should be subject to thorough review and debate to ensure transparency and public input.

Invest in public schools, not private education.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tabitha Frey

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW:
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 11:44:32

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Veronica Holtz <veronicaleeholtz@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:56 AM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoe <Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Cc: Susan Humphries <Susan.Humphries@house.ks.gov>
Subject:

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Name: Veronica Holtz
Email: veronicaleeholtz@gmail.com

Written Opposition to SB 83

Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to **vote no to SB 83**. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Veronica Holtz
Wichita, KS

From: [Kristey Williams](#)
To: [Garret Belknap](#)
Subject: FW: Vote NO on SB 83
Date: Thursday, 2 March, 2023 12:05:14

REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS
Chair K-12 Education Budget
Majority Caucus Chair
77th District, Augusta

From: Jeff Richardson <vickyandjeff@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 7:08 PM
To: Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>; Brenda Landwehr <Brenda.Landwehr@house.ks.gov>; Valdenia Winn <Valdenia.Winn@house.ks.gov>; Brad Boyd <Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov>; Susan Estes <Susan.Estes@house.ks.gov>; Randy Garber <Randy.Garber@house.ks.gov>; Jason Goetz <Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov>; Mari-Lynn Poskin <Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov>; Scott Hill <Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov>; Jarrod Ousley <Jarrod.Ousley@house.ks.gov>; Timothy Johnson <Timothy.Johnson@house.ks.gov>; Rebecca Schmoie <Rebecca.Schmoie@house.ks.gov>; Adam Thomas <Adam.Thomas@house.ks.gov>
Subject: Vote NO on SB 83

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Vicky Richardson
vickyandjeff@yahoo.com
Written Opposition to SB 83
Hearing Date/Time: Mar. 2, 2023 at 3:30 pm

Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to SB 83. Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private tuition or for private tuition tax credits. This bill was supposed to be a way for low-income families, but now families of 4 making \$120,000 are eligible for this credit. That is 400% above the poverty level.

This removes any "low-income status" proving that the bill was not meant to provide opportunities for low-income students, but used to reimburse families who are already sending their children to private schools.

As a Kansan who is actively involved in our political process, I am disappointed that more time and transparency for this bill was not given so that accurate testimony from voters could be sent in on time. If this bill will stand ground on its own, Kansans should be given time to voice support or opposition.

Respectfully,
Vicky Richardson
Hutchinson, KS
Reno County