

**From:** [Kristey Williams](#)  
**To:** [K12 Budget](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support of HB 2506  
**Date:** Monday, January 22, 2024 12:57:35 PM

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REP. KRISTEY WILLIAMS  
*Chair K-12 Education Budget*  
*Majority Caucus Chair*  
*77<sup>th</sup> District, Augusta*

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**From:** Erin Meyer-Gambrel <emeyer83@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 22, 2024 12:22 PM  
**To:** Kristey Williams <Kristey.Williams@house.ks.gov>  
**Subject:** Support of HB 2506

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- a) Erin Meyer Gambrel, virtual teacher for Manhattan Virtual Academy
- b) [emeyer83@gmail.com](mailto:emeyer83@gmail.com)
- c) [HB 2506](#).
- d) Proponent
- e) 1/22/2024

I am writing in support of HB 2506. While the email may come too late, I hope my plea does not fall on deaf ears. As a virtual teacher, one of the challenges we saw this year was a big drop in enrollment with families who were homeschooled once they were allowed to participate in their home community school sports. Families removed themselves from virtual to homeschooling simply so students could participate and do sports. While homeschooling can be wonderful, one of the beauties of virtual school is that teachers and families work together in an online format to support students and families with their virtual learning needs. Certified teachers can support parents on Kansas state standards and the depth of rigor needed. Parents who had previously homeschooled and switched to virtual regularly expressed how appreciative they were to get support for their understanding of educational content, but also for the relationships and support peers as well as educators provide. Virtual school students should be afforded the same opportunities as homeschooled students to their local community schools with regard to sports.

Thank you,

Erin Meyer-Gambrel, Manhattan, KS.