



Thank you for the chance to testify today Neutral on HB 2514, a bill that would alter the current open enrollment statutes. I am here on behalf of thousands of activists from across our state who believe that no two students are alike and there should be many avenues available to get an education that meets their child’s unique needs. We applaud and thank the legislature for their hard work expanding open enrollment in the state and putting families and students first.

HB 2567 moved Kansas from one of the states with the worst open enrollment laws to a state with some of the best open enrollment laws in the country. In December 2023, [NPR penned](#) that HB 2567 “echoes laws in more than two dozen other states where public school transfers are seen as a hallmark of school choice.”

The law passed in 2022 is clear and simple – districts will have to declare the number of open seats at each grade level and publish the number of open seats on their website.

HB 2514 further simplifies the process for students and families by permitting nonresident students who open enroll during the 2023-2024 school year to continue their enrollment and attendance in the school they selected until they graduate from high school, unless they are deemed to no longer be in good standing.

On the note of good standing, we challenge this committee to consider the effects that denying a student from enrollment or continued enrollment in a school district may have. While we certainly support local control and value school districts having their own decision rights, we also encourage you to prioritize flexibility for students and families. Using arbitrary or loosely interpretative measures to deny a student enrollment could unintentionally have negative effects and create a loophole for bad actors to deny students simply because they do not want to participate in open enrollment. It is our goal to ensure that this policy remain preserved in fashion that keeps the burden and barriers between Kansas families and an education that best meets their children’s needs.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Lueth

Deputy State Director

Americans For Prosperity-KS