

**January 29, 2024**

**Testimony to the House K-12 Education Budget Committee**

**NAME:** Erin Woods

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** ewoods999@gmail.com

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 2594

**PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL:** Opponent

**ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY:** Written Only

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill HB 2594 creating a new task force to review and make recommendations to the state's school finance formula.

I am the parent of two graduates of our Kansas public schools, with my youngest having graduated in 2022. Over the course of the 16 years the two of them spent in K-12, they never experienced a year with a fully funded education.

Because of the Gannon court case, during the last few years of their education, some of the funding that was cut during the recession and the Brownback administration began to be restored. We started to see how the restoration of funds could make a difference.

That court case was lengthy and expensive for taxpayers. But, it was necessary and the outcome was worth it. We have seen funding restored and we have a school finance formula that was found by the courts to be equitable and constitutional, when fully funded.

Attempting to change this formula will only lead us back to the courtroom again and would be an unnecessary use of tax payer dollars.

Instead of spending tax dollars on a task force that will lead to an untested formula, we need the legislature to continue to fully fund the current court approved formula and to fully fund special education.

As such, I respectfully ask that you vote no on HB 2594.

Erin Woods  
Leawood, KS