Feb 1, 2024 Written Testimony for HB 2612

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K12 Committee and Chair:

I am writing to encourage you to OPPOSE HB 2612 because it does not enforce standards on all K12 schools in Kansas and only applies to public schools even though schools all throughout Kansas public or private receive publicly funded tax dollars. Having the potential to remove accreditation for only public schools and not all schools sets a precedent that private education can take publicly funded dollars and maintain no accountability while public education can be targeted for accreditation loss. This would be harmful to our children, as more than 90% of Kansas students attend public education, and the impact of losing accreditation would favor private schools.

Unless standards for our Kansas schools are the same across the board, then legislation like this is poor legislation.

Also expecting Kansas schools to adhere to this level of statutory requirements when the State itself cannot even do that is hypocritical. The state should focus on fully funding Special Education instead of placing more red tape on public schools and providing ways for less accountability to private education.

Please OPPOSE HB 2612

Dawn Brumbley Olathe, KS