From: Braden Werner
To: K12 Budget
Subject: Opposition of HB 2612
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 2:27:21 PM

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.

Here is my testimony in opposition of HB 2612.

This bill only applies to public school districts, not private and voucher schools!

Remember the FAILED voucher bill would be 100's of millions of dollars and not collect a single piece of data, EVER, on student performance and they exempt from ANY statutory regulations:
http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2023_24/measures/sb83/

"New Sec. 15. {14.} Nothing in the sunflower education equity act shall be construed to permit any governmental agency to exercise control or supervision over any nonpublic school or home school. Any qualified school or tutor that accepts a payment from a parent of a qualified student participating in the program is not an agent of this state."

Last year in conference committee, they added provisions to allow private schools to be waived for some accreditation processes (Can't remember this exactly, have asked research) for private schools to get accredited, yet we want to jeopardize public school accreditation.

We've spent two seeks discussing districts out of compliance with at-risk funding statutes, while simultaneously noting how impossible it is to meet the evidence based practices curriculum standards.

Requiring school district compliance with statute while the committee and legislature has been out of compliance with statutory SPED funding since 2012, is the height of hypocrisy.

This sets the stage to discredit our public schools (ONLY) when the legislature passes legislation outlawing the teaching of true history (ant CRT laws)

What about the students in these districts who are high performers and have dreams of attending elite colleges? They will be dinged in the admissions process due to transcripts from an unaccredited school district.

Respectfully,

Braden Werner