

**Jean Daugherty, Kansas Resident**

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**Bill Number: HB2738**

*Revising the special education state aid statewide excess costs calculation to count additional funding, requiring the state board of education to determine each school district's excess costs and to establish a special education state aid equalization distribution schedule.*

**Position: Opponent Testimony, Written-only**

Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 3:30 PM

Committee: House Committee on K-12 Education Budget

Chair: Rep. Kristey Williams

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in opposition to HB2738

As a special educator for over 30 years, I know first hand the impact that funding has on this population. It is disturbing to me that there appears to be a lack of transparency in considering changes to the current method for calculating funding. First of all, it is my understanding that stakeholders and experts were not invited to provide input. Secondly, why was the Special Education Task Force, who seem to me to be the most relevant group to provide input, left out of the process? The timing appears to rush this out of committee and seems misguided when so much is at stake for a vulnerable population of students. The public deserve the opportunity to understand what is at stake with these changes and to provide feedback.

I respectfully urge you to oppose HB2738 and instead refer it to the special task force for review and recommendation.