



900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 600
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212
(785) 296-3203
www.ksde.gov

Danny Zeck
District 1

Melanie Haas
District 2

Michelle Dombrosky
District 3

Connie O'Brien
District 4

Cathy Hopkins
District 5

Beryl New
District 6

Dennis Hershberger
District 7

Betty J. Arnold
District 8

Jim Porter
District 9

Debby Potter
District 10

2/26/2025

Opponent Testimony for Substitute for Senate Bill 45

House Committee on Education
Cathy Hopkins and Danny Zeck, Liaisons
Kansas State Board of Education

Chair Estes and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony regarding Substitute for Senate Bill 45 on behalf of the State Board of Education. The State Board has historically set the method to determine graduation rates for accreditation and knows no reason to change this practice. The State Board's authority on this matter, and others, has been upheld in court cases such as the one noted below.¹

Substitute for Senate Bill 45 would require the calculation of two high school graduation rates for every school district in the state – one in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act definition of a four-year cohort graduation rate² and one under the requirements of this bill. The State Board respectfully requests the Legislature reject Substitute for Senate Bill 45.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our testimony,

Cathy Hopkins

Danny Zeck

¹ State ex rel. Miller v. Board of Ed. of Unified School Dist. No. 398, Marion County (Peabody), 1973, 212 Kan. 482, 511 P.2d 705

² 34 CFR § 200.34