



**Oral Neutral Testimony on
HB 2203
Including fetal alcohol syndrome disorder under the definition of other health impairments
for special education
House Education Committee**

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Chair Estes and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify as neutral on HB 2203. Our member-affirmed legislative platform supports efforts to improve student achievement and the promotion of student safety, security, and well-being. This support would also encompass designating children with fetal alcohol syndrome disorder as eligible for services under the state's special education law.

We must note, however, that adding additional categories that qualify a student to receive services under an IEP increases the costs for school districts to provide those mandated services. If the committee opts to move forward with HB 2203, we strongly urge the legislature to do its statutory duty to fully fund Special Education at 92% of excess costs. The continued underfunding of Special Education prevents KASB from supporting HB 2203 outright.

Thank you.

KASB is a non-profit service organization built on an abiding belief in Kansas public schools. We have put the needs of students and K-12 leaders first since 1917.