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HB 2468 Low Income Family Assistance Scholarship Act
Proponent – Oral In-Person Testimony
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Thank you, Chairwoman Estes and members of the Kansas House Education Committee, for allowing me to testify in favor of HB 2468, the bill raising the cap on the low-income tax credit scholarship program and bringing the federal tax credit program to Kansas.

This is my story. Tax credit scholarships play a vital part in the lives of many students, including mine. My family does not have excess money. My parents came here looking for the American dream. They wanted a better future for their children and sacrificed everything for us. To be able to attend a private Catholic school is a privilege in my eyes. I have been attending Bishop Ward High School on a scholarship and am currently a junior. They have provided me with more opportunities that I could ever dream of and an education beyond words. Being able to attend school is a gift. As you know, not everyone is able to attend the school, due to financial limitations. Education is the foundation of life, everyone deserves it. No matter your status, race, or past. Raising the limit on tax credit scholarships would allow more students like me to receive scholarships and the Kansas tax credit scholarships would help more students like me receive scholarships and realize their dreams.

Also, choosing to opt in to the federal tax credit program would ensure greater access to opportunities for Kansas students across all enrollment types, including public, private, and religious schools. If we decide not to opt in, Kansans will most likely send their money to our neighboring states. Opting in allows us students of Kansas to have a better chance of an education. The changes proposed in HB 2468 will allow more students like me to benefit and students throughout the state, helping them reach their full potential.

In closing, I ask that you please support HB 2468.
Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Scarlett Acosta
Student, Bishop Ward High School