

**Testimony to the House Education Committee**

**Date of Committee Hearing: January 20, 2026**

**Bill HB 2468 Opponent**

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**Chair & Members of the Committee,**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to bill HB 2468.

Public education dollars should remain with Kansas public schools, which educate all children. Expanding this program reduces available state resources and undermines the legislature's ability to fund public schools adequately and equitably across Kansas.

Education funding should be prioritized toward fully funding special education, an obligation the state continues to struggle to meet. Rather than addressing this shortfall, HB 2468 would divert taxpayer dollars to private schools that are not required to serve all students and may pick and choose whom they enroll. Public funds should not subsidize systems that exclude students or lack transparency.

Additionally, this program lacks basic accountability. There are no meaningful requirements to collect data, measure student outcomes, or demonstrate that public dollars are improving educational results. Kansas taxpayers deserve assurance that education funds are being used effectively and responsibly.

Finally, with respect to opting into the federal voucher program, the Kansas Legislature has repeatedly called on the federal government to fully fund its share of special education. Opting into a program that directs federal dollars to private schools—while the federal government continues to fall short on its special education obligations—runs counter to that position and further strains public school resources.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to oppose HB 2468.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Ashley Barlow, Concerned Parent + Resident**

**Overland Park**