

January 21, 2026

Testimony to the House Education Committee

FROM: Melissa Sabin, Shawnee, Johnson County

BILL NUMBER: HB 2468

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written Only

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opposition to HB 2468.

Education vouchers harm public schools by diverting public dollars away from the very systems required to serve all children. In a largely rural state like Kansas, vouchers often provide no real choice at all—many communities simply do not have private schools nearby. Even where private schools exist, vouchers do nothing for the tens of thousands of children who rely on special education services.

I am the mother of a child with disabilities. My son, Logan, is disabled and has limited school options as a result of his needs. Like many families, we depend on public schools not just for education, but for legally required supports and services that allow our child to learn, participate, and be included. Private schools are not obligated to accept students with disabilities, nor are they required to provide individualized services or accommodations. Only public schools carry that responsibility.

This bill would disproportionately harm children like Logan—children who already face barriers to access and inclusion. When public funds are siphoned away, the students who remain in public schools, particularly those requiring special education services, are left with fewer resources and less support.

Kansas has failed to fully fund special education for more than 15 years. Districts are forced to make up the difference by pulling from general education budgets, which affects all students. Any new investment in education should prioritize fully funding special education, not weakening public schools through voucher programs.

Our public schools are essential—to our communities, to our economy, and to children like my son. I urge you to protect them and vote no on HB 2468.

Thank you for your time and consideration.