



**Oral Opponent Testimony on
HB 2530, CREDIT Act
House Education Committee**

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Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

KASB appears today in opposition to HB 2530. We share the legislature's interest in not only preparing students for success in the career and technical fields but also recognizing the value of those educational accomplishments. Kansas public schools are enthusiastic partners in the Excel in CTE Act and are justifiably proud of the large numbers of our students who've earned CTE credentials that have prepared them for high paying jobs in in-demand fields.

Unfortunately, HB 2530 would impose an unfunded mandate on our public schools in a time when Special Education is not fully funded and in a session in which there are active discussions around diverting tax money from public schools to private schools that don't accept all students and may not be able to provide the robust CTE programs we all support.

We also observe that HB 2530 conflicts with local control by mandating that a CTE assessment be given to each public-school student. Local boards of education should and do have the authority to work with parents to further their students' interest in career preparation and certification.

If the committee chooses to work the bill, KASB respectfully suggests that it be amended to remove the mandate mentioned above and that the legislature commits to providing an additional new funding source. We also recommend including private high schools with CTE programs in the Act.

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.