



**Oral Opponent Testimony on
HB 2486, toilet training mandate
House Education Committee**

**By
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Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

KASB opposes HB 2486 because it conflicts with our bedrock legislative platform position calling for local control over district policies and programs.

We respectfully observe that it is not the legislature's place to insert itself into deeply personal parent/child relationships, including a young child's progress toward fully independent toileting. This is a matter best left to the partnership between local boards of education and parents.

The bill is also in direct contradiction of our position on unfunded mandates.

The administration of the forms for parents to sign assuring their child is toilet trained will be an unfunded cost for schools to bear. Additionally, the enforcement mechanisms of assessing individual students and expected litigation anytime a student is removed from kindergarten under this bill would likely present sizable costs for districts. At a time when special education is underfunded and the legislature is having active conversations about diverting public tax dollars away from public schools, we strongly urge the legislature not to impose an additional unfunded mandate on our districts.

We urge the committee to reject HB 2486.

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.