

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
TOPEKA, KS 66612
(785) 296-7310

megan.steele@house.ks.gov
(405) 714-7835



DR. MEGAN D. STEELE
51ST DISTRICT

February 1, 2026

Subject: Proponent Testimony for HB2510

To: Honorable Chair Estes and Education Committee Members

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB2510. At its core, this bill is about respecting individual choice and ensuring responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. School board members are individually elected officials. If a board member does not wish to join a professional association, public funds should not automatically be spent on their behalf. HB 2510 makes that principle clear and straightforward.

This legislation strengthens transparency in spending by clearly dividing dues per board member and making it evident who is choosing to participate and who is not. Clarity allows both districts and taxpayers to see exactly how funds are being used. It also reduces unnecessary spending. When memberships are automatically covered regardless of participation, dollars can go toward benefits that are never used or truly valued. HB 2510 ensures that funds follow intentional decisions rather than default assumptions, limiting indirect subsidies and preventing situations where one member's preferences are funded by others without consent.

Most importantly, this bill encourages thoughtful engagement. Board members will be more deliberate in determining which associations truly provide value in training, advocacy, or resources. Participation becomes intentional rather than automatic. When dues are automatically paid, there can be an unspoken expectation to join. This bill freezes costs for non-participating members and preserves their independence.

HB2510 does not prohibit membership. It does not eliminate professional development. It simply ensures that public dollars are spent with clarity, consent, and accountability.

I respectfully ask for your support of HB 2510.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Steele', written in a cursive style.

Representative Steele