



**Oral Opponent Testimony on  
HB 2510, organizational dues  
House Education Committee**

**By**

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Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

KASB appears today in opposition to HB 2510. The bill fundamentally misunderstands how membership organizations function and conflicts with the principle of majority rule.

KASB is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1917. Our membership consists of more than 330 boards of K12 education and the boards of community and technical colleges. We are the largest body of elected officials in the state at about 2,000 strong.

**Local boards**, not individuals, pay dues to KASB for a wide range of services including legislative advocacy, legal representation and policy services, communications services, superintendent searches, and leadership development not only for board members but also for a broad range of employees including superintendents and building staff. KASB also provides worker's compensation insurance, insurance benefits consulting, and an energy cost management pool. These services save our members millions of dollars each year, allowing them to focus their time, energy, and financial resources on supporting success for each Kansas student.

Other local government entities in Kansas have similar structures in place about membership in their private, nonprofit membership organizations. They are not included in the scope of HB 2510.

HB 2510 conflicts with the concept of majority rule in **any** elected body, including the state legislature. It would allow a single member of a school board to interfere with the board's legal authority to enter contracts for any number of services. If HB 2510 were enacted, should the vendor then grapple with how to execute only 6/7ths of a contract with the board? That scenario cannot be ruled out under this bill.

We respectfully urge the committee not to apply a standard to a single private, non-profit organization that it would not apply to itself. Furthermore, we urge the legislature to focus its



attention and authority on more fruitful pursuits, such as fully funding special education for the benefit of all Kansas students.

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.*