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Measuring Student Progress

House Education Committee

February 6, 2026

Chairwoman Estes and Members of Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of House Bill 2663**.

Aligned is a nonprofit, business-led coalition focused on ensuring Kansas students are prepared for success from early childhood through workforce. We appreciate the committee's continued attention to improving outcomes for students who face the greatest barriers to academic achievement. **HB 2663** strengthens Kansas' at-risk student accountability framework by emphasizing measurable progress, evidence-based instruction, and longitudinal evaluation. The bill reinforces an important principle: at-risk education dollars should be tied to strategies that demonstrate meaningful, sustained improvement in student outcomes.

Aligned supports the bill's requirement that districts establish multi-year, quantitative academic improvement goals for clearly defined student cohorts. This approach moves accountability beyond single-year snapshots and encourages districts to focus on sustained growth over time, particularly in literacy and mathematics, which are critical to long-term success.

We also support the use of approved, evidence-based interventions and the flexibility for districts to adjust strategies when data show they are not working. This balance of accountability and local decision-making promotes continuous improvement rather than compliance for compliance's sake.

Finally, the bill improves transparency and public confidence by strengthening reporting requirements and making district plans and progress accessible to the public. Clear, consistent reporting helps families, educators, and policymakers better understand how at-risk funds are being used and whether they are producing results. **HB 2663** represents a thoughtful step toward aligning resources with outcomes for Kansas students. Aligned respectfully urges the committee to support this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Claudia Fury-Aguirre

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