## February 3, 2025

Re: 25 RS 0630

Honorable Members of the House K-12 Budget Committeee Kansas House of Representatives State Capitol 300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairperson Williams and Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment as a party in support of 25 RS 0630. If passed, 25 RS 0630 would establish a more permanent structure and governance for the Kansas State Longitudinal Data System.

ACT, as you know, is a national testing organization grounded in more than 65 years of education and workforce research. ACT's learning resources, assessments, research, and work-ready credentials are trusted by students, job seekers, educators, schools, government agencies, and employers as effective, valid, and reliable solutions to help people achieve their education and career goals at every stage of life.

Our organization supports 25 RS 0630 as it formalizes the state's efforts to systematically link state data systems that will allow researchers to evaluate the impact of state programs and services for individuals as well as for the state of Kansas. For both policy makers and the general public, longitudinal data analysis better informs education and workforce policy as well as individual decisions about education and training programs.

Our organization has had a longstanding interest in evaluating individual and aggregate outcomes for the products and services that our state partners use to better serve students of all ages. We have proudly partnered with several states over the years to link our data with their existing state longitudinal data systems in order to evaluate education and labor market outcomes.<sup>1</sup> This research has been critical for policy makers to understand the impact that different education and training programs have on state education and workforce outcomes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/R2131-Criterion-Related-and-Differential-Validity-of-ACT-WorkKeys-in-Arkansas-07-2023.pdf</u> https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/R1728-ncrc-mo-success-2018-11.pdf

For training and education providers, longitudinal outcome research helps to understand how programs can maximize efficacy for students, and to determine how well program content aligns with labor market and community needs.

We appreciate your consideration of these issues and want to assure you that we are committed to efforts to improve education and workplace success for all Kansans.

Respectfully,

## Mary LeFebvre

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