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Re: Proponent Testimony for HB 25RS0630 – Kansas SLDS

Chairman Goetz & Members of the House K-12 Education Budget Committee:

I am writing in strong support of HB 25RS0630, the Kansas State Longitudinal Data System. This bill will enhance education and workforce alignment by securely integrating data from multiple agencies, ensuring that Kansas remains competitive in workforce development and economic growth. U.S. Engineering has invested in Kansas for over 130 years, and this bill would go a long way towards helping us plan for another 130 years. Our business begins and ends with quality Team Members.

I support HB 25RS0630 for a few key reasons. First, the KLDS will allow policymakers, educators, and businesses like mine to use data-driven insights to improve educational outcomes and assess workforce readiness. Second, Kansas needs a centralized system to track and align educational pathways with in-demand industries to support students and workers in career advancement. This is particularly true when it comes to promoting STEM skills for all our Team Members. Third, this bill includes robust safeguards to protect personal information while ensuring responsible data use. Finally, by streamlining access to data, it will reduce inefficiencies by helping state agencies make more informed, cost-saving policy decisions.

Again, this effort is a long-term investment that our state should be prepared to make so we can remain competitive. I urge you to support HB 25RS0630 and advance this important initiative. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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