



**Testimony to House Committee on K-12 Budget
Written Only Testimony Supporting 25RS0630
February 5, 2025**

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce/ Civic Council of Kansas City

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce (KC Chamber) and the Civic Council of Kansas City (Civic Council) urges the House Committee on K-12 Budget to favorably pass 25RS0630 which will create a statewide longitudinal data system. The KC Chamber and Civic Council, representing nearly 2,000 businesses (40% of which are in Kansas), and its Board of Directors, believe the success of all students and our community requires a high-quality public education system that includes keeping data-informed high standards for transparency, performance, growth, and outcomes aligned with community and workforce needs. Creating a statewide longitudinal data system will also strengthen our state's ability to retain Kansas students and keep them in our region.

The creation of the statewide longitudinal data system will allow for real-time tracking of education and workforce trends, allowing Kansas to proactively adapt policies to remain competitive. If passed, Kansas will join the 42 other states that currently use these systems. The KC Chamber/Civic Council believes that measures like this can play a significant role in advancing a well-educated population with technical skills and problem-solving abilities that are key to Kansas City's capacity to innovate, grow, and compete.

The KC Chamber/Civic Council supports the creation of the longitudinal data system and encourages this committee to pass 25RS0630.

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