



Written Neutral Testimony on
HB 2303, longitudinal data
By
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In House K12 Education Budget
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February 12, 2025

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee,

KASB appears today as neutral on HB 2303. While there certainly may be some advantages to a statewide longitudinal data system, we have some existential concerns about the proposal.

We're concerned this bill sets up a \$3 million duplication of existing effort that will also have the effect of growing the size of the state government. If that is the case, the bill will be unlikely to receive sufficient legislative support to achieve enactment.

Additionally, we observe that many state agencies, including the Kansas State Department of Education, have robust longitudinal data collection systems already in place. Unfortunately, the legislature frequently declines to fund the FTEs needed for KSDE to do its work and to respond to legislative mandates. We respectfully raise the possibility that the \$3 million cost associated with HB 2303 could instead be directed to FTEs at KSDE or dedicated to increasing the legislative commitment to fund BASE state aid or add additional new money to the Special Education funding formula.

We close by respectfully suggesting that this matter should be addressed by an Interim committee. 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.