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2/7/2025

## **Opponent Testimony for Senate Bill 48**

Senate Committee on Education

Cathy Hopkins and Danny Zeck, Liaisons

Kansas State Board of Education

Chair Erickson and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony regarding Senate Bill 48 on behalf of the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education voted to prioritize the Constitutional authority given to the State Board of Education. Senate Bill 48 derogates the State Board of Education's Constitutional authority to provide general supervision over public schools, educational institutions and all the state's education interests, which includes the authority to set accreditation and curriculum standards.

The State Board of Education approved the implementation of the updated Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA 2.0) beginning in the current school year (2024-2025). Senate Bill 48 is not in harmony with the goals set forth in the adopted accreditation model in helping districts collaboratively engage in school improvement days and create action plans that fulfill the unique needs of each individual local school district. The State Board also notes that the Kansas State Department of Education staff have been provided the opportunity to connect with several Legislators during the 2025 legislative session to explain the KESA 2.0 model and have been met with positive feedback. The State Board and the Kansas State Department of Education welcome the opportunity to engage with more Legislators who are interested in better understanding this model.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our testimony,

Cathy Hopkins

Danny Zeck

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*