

Testimony before the  
Senate Education Committee  
On  
SB 263  
Establishing standards and requirements for active shooter drills conducted by public and  
accredited nonpublic elementary and secondary schools.  
by  
By Jim Karleskint, United School Administrators  
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Chair Erickson and members of the Senate Education committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present oral neutral testimony on SB 263. USA Kansas appears in neutral on this legislation.

United School Administrators of Kansas supports the concept behind The Students Safe at School Act. And what the Sandy Hook Promise organization.

We also understand how active shooter simulations do not make students/staff feel safer, and these types of drills could make students more fearful and impact mental health.

If an active shooter drill is to be used it should not be requiring mandatory student participation in these simulations.

However, USA Kansas feels this is a matter of local control. Article 6, Section 5 of the Kansas Constitution states, "Local public schools under the general supervision of the state board of education shall be maintained, developed and operated under locally elected boards".

As stated, we support the concept behind this legislation. But feel this is an area the legislature should leave these decisions up to state board of education and locally elected boards of education and carried out by school staff.

For these reasons USA Kansas appears neutral on SB 263.