



To: Senate Committee on Education

From: Cassandra Barton, Insight School of KS and KS Virtual Academy Head of School

Date: February 10, 2026

Re: Support of SB 383

Madam Chairwoman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written remarks in support of SB 383 on behalf of Insight School of Kansas and Kansas Virtual Academy. As the Head of School for two virtual schools in Kansas that serve students all over the state, I oversee schools who work with exceptional students receiving special services as outlined in their Individualized Education Plans every day.

Public virtual schools are held to the same legal expectations of serving exceptional students as any other public school in the state. About 18% of our student body receive special services. All services for our students are provided virtually. Currently, we have special education teachers, paraprofessionals, speech language pathologists, a school psychologist, and a social worker on staff and all are appropriately licensed as they would be if employed in a brick-and-mortar school. If we have a student needing services that we do not have a licensed staff person available to provide (occupational therapy, physical therapy, etc.), we contract with an outside agency to provide those services.

SB 383 updates the current law to allow for state aid reimbursement for qualified teachers/staff who are not employees of a school district but are employed by an entity with whom the district has contracted. Virtual school students do not receive fewer services because they are enrolled in a virtual school and state aid reimbursement should be available to public virtual schools, regardless of who employs the licensed staff member who is providing the services.

Thank you for your work in ensuring funding is equitable no matter what public schooling model a Kansas family chooses.