

Jamie Heller

Private citizen

2/19/2025

SB 254

Written only

Thank you for your time. My name is Jamie Heller and I'm a resident of Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage you to vote. No on Senate Bill 254.

I have spent 27 years working in public education, both as a teacher and as a school counselor. My job is to help young people establish the skills that they need to be successful in their lives. Right now students who are undocumented do not receive any kind of scholarships or other financial assistance from the federal government. Once they have attended a high school in the state of Kansas for three years, they then can qualify to receive in-state tuition. Once students are accepted at an in-state college they cannot apply for a financial aid or scholarships to attend the school from any kind of federal agencies or state agencies. This means that these students and families are paying for college out of their pocket. The students that I've worked with who want to attend one of our colleges in the state are doing their best to become productive, active, and educated in our community. We want students and young people who have solid skills and can contribute to help our society run well. We should be inviting them to further their education.

Thank you again for your time and consideration. I truly hope that we will look at issues in a larger picture and not just a long party line. We need representatives that will listen to all members of the state and not to their own personal agenda.