

Oral Opposition Testimony before the
Senate Government Efficiency Committee
On
Senate Bill has no number
Requiring school districts to verify the household gross income of each student whose family
qualifies for free meals under the National School Lunch Program.
by
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Chair Erickson and members of the Senate Committee on Government Efficiency. Thank you for the opportunity to present opposition testimony on the proposed legislation to verify household income for students receiving free meals under NSLP. USA Kansas appears in opposition to the proposed legislation for the following reasons.

1. When testimony was to be provided there was no bill number to reference of view the details of the proposed legislation.
2. The state cannot mandate school districts to require documentation for **all** households beyond what federal National School Lunch Program regulations permits.
3. Since NSLP in a federal program state law must not impose requirements that conflict with federal law.
4. Federal regulations explicitly set the verification limits on what a school district can do when determining eligibility.
5. Even if the unseen legislation would somehow get around the NSLP guidelines this would create additional burdens on school districts. In essence this is another unfunded mandate by the state. Additional staff would be required to do what is being proposed.

The bottom line is federal law sets the eligibility and income verification framework for the National Lunch Program. State requirements that conflict with these federal standards are in violation of USDA rules.