



KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION / 715 SW 10TH AVENUE / TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1686

Timothy R. Graham
Director of Government Relations & Legislative Affairs
Written Testimony – Proponent
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senate Bill 288
March 11, 2025

Chairperson Warren and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 288.

Kansas NEA is a member-driven organization representing all 40,000 educators in the state of Kansas, including nearly 22,000 active members. The positions we advocate for have been proposed, debated, and adopted by several hundred members selected by their peers to attend our annual Representative Assembly.

KNEA has several resolutions addressing the issue of safety. One such resolution states, in part:

...KNEA believes that every school district should be proactive in providing for the safety and security of all students by taking appropriate security measures. All school buildings should have controlled access. School design should incorporate technologies that facilitate safety. Additional safety measures should be implemented when school facilities are used for public events...

SB 288 aligns with our values and resolutions by prohibiting any registered sex offender aged 18 or older, whose offense involved a victim under 18, from entering school property or attending school activities.

Educators, students, parents, and the communities that rely on public schools have the right to expect that school buildings and classrooms are safe places. For educators, this is a workplace safety and quality-of-life issue. For students, a classroom that is not safe is not conducive to learning. For parents, the peace of mind that comes with knowing their child is safe when they drop them off every morning is critical.

We thank you for your time, and we urge the committee to support SB 288.