

January 26, 2026

The Honorable Susan Estes, Chairperson
House Committee on Education
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 218-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Estes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2431 by Representative Meyer, et al.

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2431 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2431 would create the Student Secular Bill of Rights. The bill would establish statutory protections against religious coercion and discrimination in public schools. Also, the bill would provide a cause of action for students and parents for violations of the bill.

The bill would have all students enrolled in a school district to have the right to:

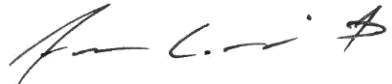
1. Practice any religion on school property or at school events, with certain restrictions;
2. Not practice any religion on school property or at school events;
3. Not be discriminated against based upon a student's religious beliefs;
4. Be free from school-sponsored religious teachings or practices on school property or school events;
5. Be free of school-sponsored religious displays on property or school events;
6. Be free from school-sponsored religious messaging on school property or school events;
7. Refuse to engage in religious discussions or reject unwanted proselytizing (attempting to convert an individual from one religion to another through persuasion) by other students; and
8. Not be offered any benefit or incentive to participate in a religious activity during school hours that is facilitated by any third-party organization.

The bill would require each local board of education to adopt policies and procedures establishing a formal grievance procedure for students, parents, and school district employees to report violations. The bill would outline the requirements of the policies and procedures.

On or before October 1, 2026, the State Board of Education would be required to develop and provide guidance and implementation on the provisions of the bill for school districts and students, including model policies and training materials. On or before January 1, 2027, each local board of education would be required to adopt policies and procedures to implement provisions of the bill. The bill's sections would be severable if any section would be held unconstitutional or invalid.

The Department of Education states the enactment of the bill would require its staff to develop and provide guidance and implementation materials to school districts; however, the agency would fulfil this requirement with its existing staff and would require no additional appropriations from the State General Fund. The Kansas Association of School Boards indicates that the enactment of the bill would increase administrative costs for implementation and training on the bill's provisions; however, a fiscal effect was not estimated.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education
Angie Stallbaumer, Kansas Association of School Boards