

Testimony on **SB 453**
before the
House Health and Human Services Committee

by

Jim Edwards, Governmental Relations Specialist
Kansas Association of School Boards

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Chairman Morrison and members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to appear in front of you today to support **SB 453**, a measure that would exempt direct programs or services of a local school district from licensure by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

We have been working with KDHE on the issue of before and after school programs and feel that what was drafted for rules and regulations will help the majority of school districts in Kansas. However, the uniqueness of the issues in Emporia, and possibly other districts, shows that this legislation is needed to address current problems with KDHE rules and regulations.

School districts are already regulated by the Kansas State Department of Education as well as their respective locally elected boards. Currently, criminal background checks are required for all persons before they are granted a teaching certificate and in many cases, school districts conduct KBI background checks on all staff members prior to hiring.

I thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today and would urge your support of **SB 453**. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.