



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

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Written Testimony - Opponent
Senate Bill 501
Senate Committee on Public Health & Welfare
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Chairman Hilderbrand, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of Senate Bill 501.

Kansas NEA believes there is a strong correlation between poverty and lack of achievement in education. As such, we support efforts that work to combat the effects of poverty, including access to assistance and healthcare. Additionally, we believe that legislation passed by the Kansas Legislature should truly reflect Kansas values.

Senate Bill 501 creates unnecessary restrictions and makes it more difficult for Kansas families to receive assistance to meet their basic needs during times of hardship. Children cannot learn when they are hungry, and this bill puts hundreds of thousands of Kansas children at risk of losing much needed nutrition and health care.

To make matters worse, this bill was requested for introduction by a Florida-based lobbying organization. What do they know about the needs of Kansans and their families?

Kansas NEA urges the committee to vote no on Senate Bill 501.