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Written Testimony - Proponent  
House Bill 2132  
House Committee on Education  
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Chairman Thomas, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 2132, expanding the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act to include the areas of study of elementary and secondary education.

With more teachers retiring or leaving the profession and steady decline in newly graduated teachers seeking licenses, Kansas NEA believes expanding the Kansas Promise Scholarship program to include future teachers would help with the recruitment of new teachers.

We believe this is a positive approach to helping address the teacher shortages that districts across the state continue to face, especially those in rural areas. These scholarships are particularly helpful for those with great financial need.

The continued success of the Kansas Promise Scholarship program is dependent upon an appropriation of funds that will allow the program to expand. We hope that due consideration will be given to finding funds for this valuable program.

We thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on this bill and encourage you to pass House Bill 2132.