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## Written Only Proponent Testimony

**HB 2223 -AN ACT concerning education; relating to the Kansas school equity and enhancement act; removing the sunset for the high-density at-risk student weighting; amending K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 72-5151 and repealing the existing section.**

**Presented to the House Committee on Education**

**Monday, February 20, 2023**

**By**

**Dr. Deena Horst and Ann Mah, Legislative Liaisons**

**Kansas State Board of Education**

Chairman Thomas, Vice - Chairwoman Estes, Ranking Minority Member Stogsdill and members of the House Committee on Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts with you. HB 2223 would remove the sunset from the high-density, at-risk student weighting, which qualifying districts receive to provide at-risk best practice instruction to the districts' qualifying students.

For several years, this program has provided needed funds to qualifying school districts in addition to the funding formula. A sunset every two or three years has always been a part of the program. As a result, districts are unable to develop any long-term plans for the direction of the program. Removal of the sunset will give districts the opportunity to develop long-term plans for the delivery of effective, evidence-based educational services to students eligible to receive at-risk programs and services. We are aware that in a few years, the Kansas School Equity and Enhancement Act, of which the high-density, at-risk student weighting program is a part, will sunset. By removing the sunset from the high-density, at-risk student weighting, this will allow the opportunity for a more in-depth evaluation of the Kansas School Equity and Enhancement Act as well.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share our thoughts regarding HB 2223. We urge you to send it to the House Committee of the Whole for their consideration.

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*