

Kansas PTA

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February 17, 2023

Written. Testimony to House Committee on Federal and State Affairs Honorable Chair, Rep Will Carpenter
Connie Bahner, Committee Assistant
Connie.Bahner@house.ks.gov, 785-368-7166
Room 285-N, State Capitol Building

Opposed to House Bill 2304 – Firearms curriculum and public schools

Hearing: Tues, February 21, 2023, 9:00 AM Room 346-S

Honorable Chair Carpenter and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding HB 2304 – firearms curriculum and public schools.

The Kansas Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is the oldest and largest child advocacy association in America. PTA is a nonpartisan network of millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of family engagement in schools. The PTA does not endorse any candidate or political party. Rather, we advocate for policies and legislation that affect Kansas youth in alignment with our <u>legislative platform and priorities</u>. <u>PTA mission and purpose</u> have remained the same since our inception over 125 years ago, focused on facilitating every child's potential and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. Over the century, PTA has collaborated to establish programs and called for legislation that improves the lives of all children from the creation of kindergarten classes, hot and healthy lunch programs, juvenile justice system, arts in education, to school safety.

While Kansas PTA is an advocate of safe schools and gun safety in particular, we are opposed to this bill to driven by legislative action to determine whether and how to create a standardized approach to gun safety. The bill oversteps the authority of the State Board of Education and local school boards to determine the most approach, programs and policies appropriate for their school communities (KS PTA Legislative Priority 11).

Thank you for your consideration of our opposition to HB 2304– firearms curriculum.

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Brooke Burkett, VP of Advocacy; Devin Wilson, Legislative Liaison, Kansas PTA Advocacy Team

THE PTA POSITION

Kansas PTA is a nonpartisan association that promotes the welfare of children and youth. The PTA does not endorse any candidate or political party. Rather, we advocate for policies and legislation that affect Kansas youth in alignment with our legislative platform and priorities. PTA mission and purpose have remained the same since our inception over 100 years ago, focused on facilitating every child's potential and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.