



Written PROPONENT testimony for SB 255, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to school sponsored travel and activities; requiring separate overnight accommodations for students of each biological sex.

To: Madam Chair Baumgardner and Committee Members

From: Lucrecia Nold, Policy Specialist, Kansas Catholic Conference

Date: March 22, 2023

Madam Chair Baumgardner and members of the committee,

My name is Lucrecia Nold and I represent the Kansas Catholic Bishops in all things public policy. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB 255.

We believe and recognize that parents are the primary educator and protector of their children. However, at times they must entrust others to help them in this manner. May it be extended family, neighbors, teachers, or others.

The entrusting of ones child to others, is exactly what happens when children participate in overnight school sponsored trips. One of the most minimal forms of protecting a child on such a trip is to ensure that the child is sharing a room with others of their biological sex.

Our children deserve to be protected and to feel safe, regardless of their location. But especially when away from the comfort of their home, traveling for a school sponsored trip. Ensuring that children will be required to share rooms only with those who are also of the same biological sex, is a simple and easy way to keep them protected.

Let us help parents with their role of protecting their children by supporting SB 255.

Thank you for your consideration.

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