



Proponent Testimony re: HB 2514, Part-time Enrollment
Committee on K-12 Education Budget
January 26th, 2022

Chairwoman Williams and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity today to submit proponent testimony on behalf of HB 2514. My name is Elizabeth Patton and I am the State Director for Americans for Prosperity-Kansas. On behalf of our thousands of AFP activists in the state, we urge you to support HB 2514.

If we believe in the dignity and individuality of every child, then I encourage you to set Kansas on a path that celebrates each child's unique learning style instead of doubling down on the one-size-fits all model that assumes all students learn the same material, in the same manner, at the same rate, and at the same speed. We know with certainty that is not the case. This bill will help provide the necessary flexibility that will lead to opportunities for new and innovative education possibilities to our communities so all families have options for their child's education. We support efforts to unlock the potential in every child.

The pandemic has allowed us to have a new perspective on the dynamic with public schools which left many families are seeking a new approach. This bill is a significant step in ensuring that Kansas families can meet every student's unique needs and learning models, and also continue to be able to view their public schools as partners. We should not look at this as either/or, because it allows for both/and to the benefit of students.

We are consistently in favor of policy which allows families to make decisions regarding their children's education and which will also ensure that Kansas children receive the best opportunity to rise regardless of zip code or circumstance. We want this to be a state where students can see opportunity and actively pursue it with ease.

HB 2514 is a significant move in the right direction, and we hope this committee moves it forward.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Patton
State Director
Americans for Prosperity-Kansas