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## **OPPONENT IN PERSON TESTIMONY HB 2700**

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

House Education Committee

Kansas State Board of Education, Liaisons, Ann Mah and Deena Horst

Chairman Thomas and Committee members:

Thank you for allowing us to testify on behalf of the Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE) in opposition to HB 2700. HB 2700 proposes to establish a school library rating system task force to establish a materials rating system that would be required to be implemented in all school libraries by 2026.

The KSBE took up a discussion about school library materials last year. It was our consensus that decisions about what materials to place in school libraries was the purview of the local boards of education and not ours. The Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) has already provided guidance on this topic to local boards and many already have procedures in place to curate materials and review complaints. The Legislature has no business trying to determine the standards and values of every Kansas community. They are quite capable of doing that themselves. This is a gross violation of local control.

We appreciate your time and hope the Committee will oppose HB 2700.