From:	Stephanie Larsen
To:	K12 Budget
Cc:	Ethan Corson; Stephanie Clayton
Subject:	HB 2738 - Opponent Testimony: Written Only
Date:	Monday, February 12, 2024 8:47:10 AM

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NAME: Stephanie Larsen
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2738
PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent
ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written only

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to explain my opposition to bill HB 2738.

This bill creates a very complicated change to the special education funding formula. Such a significant change should be reviewed and vetted by experts before being voted into law.

Please send this bill to the Special Education Task Force that was established to study the current funding formula to determine if any changes are needed. Members of the Task Force have the expertise needed to ensure the calculations presented in this bill are logical and ultimately support the needs of Kansas kids.

Instead of spending time on unvetted calculations, please follow Kansas law and fully fund special education using one of the plans provided to you by the Governor and the State Board of Education. All Kansas kids are hurt by the current $173 million shortfall, as districts must transfer general funds to cover the shortfall in special education funds.

Respectfully, I ask that you vote no on HB 2738

Stephanie Larsen, Leawood KS