

Beaver Broadcasting Network

From: Sara G. Miles, Digital Media Instructor 712 Main St. Scott City, KS 67871

Re: Testimony for Senate Bill 13

Chairman Baumgardner, Members of the Committee:

As an educator of future broadcasters, I am writing in support of SB 13.

My students work for months covering the sporting events that our students participate in. At the end of the season, they can be barred from broadcast postseason events. Under current KSHSAA guidelines, our broadcast request can be denied for any reason by either KSHSAA or the host site, which has happened to us before.

Currently, student broadcasters are not allowed to video broadcast at State Competitions. My students have expressed to me how they feel this is unfair, and I agree wholeheartedly. The opportunity to broadcast a large-scale event, such as State Competitions, would be the opportunity of a lifetime for my students, and students like them across the state.

For my students, broadcasting is their passion. I would compare it to participating in a team sport. They have to work together, solve problems, and be on a platform representing their schools in front of hundreds, if not thousands of people. We take our role very seriously and consider ourselves to be an integral part of our community.

It is for these reasons that I support SB 13. I urge you to not only think of the professionals that could benefit, but of the students in my classroom who are learning how to become professionals. The fact that my students can be denied the opportunity of broadcasting postseason events by adults who might not have their educational goals in mind is profound. We should be supporting our students, not shutting them down at the finish line.

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