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February 6th, 2019

Testimony on: SB 59 - Eudora Community Library District Act

Before: Senate Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee

By Steve Splichal, Superintendent of Schools, Eudora, KS

Dear Madam Chairwoman and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the families of the Eudora community, I would like to extend a sincere thanks for the opportunity to provide my support for SB 59. We value the committee's effort to solicit input throughout the legislative process.

I am providing this written testimony in support of this bill. Our library has played a valued role in our community since being approved by our patrons in 1968. Since its inception, the Eudora Township Public Library has provided countless learning opportunities for patrons of all ages. Located in the heart of Eudora, it is an integral part of our community. I have witnessed first hand the important role that our library plays in offering important reading programs throughout the year and especially in the summer months when students are often left with unstructured time. The Eudora Township Public Library has also been a critical partner in the Feeding Eudora summer food program.

I strongly support the ability of the city of Eudora to continue to be part of the township library district. The relationship between the city of Eudora and the Eudora Township is important to the overall success and growth of our community. I believe that the governing bodies from the city and township have worked closely together to provide the important leadership structures necessary to ensure the continued long-term success of the library. This bill also provides the board of directors with the autonomy needed to provide for the sustainability and growth of the library into the future.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude for the work done by the city of Eudora and the Eudora Township to build what has become an important staple in our community - our library. I commend the members of this committee for their work and ask that you support the passage of SB 59.

Respectfully,

Steve Splichal, Superintendent of Schools
Eudora Unified School District #491

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