



Chairwoman Williams and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2514, and for the opportunity today to submit proponent testimony on its behalf. ExcelinEd in Action supports this bill because it makes the benefits of public schools more accessible to all Kansas learners. This policy is a win for public schools and a win for families.

Part-time enrollment policy empowers families to engage with public schools on their own terms, while encouraging school districts to respond to the learning needs of Kansas families. In this, ExcelinEd in Action believes that part-time enrollment policy creates opportunities to build trusting relationships between families and public schools, relationships that will be crucial to the state's efforts to recover lost learning.

Part-time enrollment is not a new policy concept. We know of at least twelve states that explicitly provide for part time enrollment. Indeed, seven already qualify part time enrollment as a student right. However, HB 2514 would undoubtedly make Kansas a leader in part-time enrollment policy.

At the ExcelinEd in Action, we believe that every student should have access to public schools. We believe HB 2514 would ensure every Kansas student has the opportunity to benefit from public education while creating new pathways for public schools to engage with families. This bill is positive step in the right direction, and we hope the committee will move it forward.

Sincerely,

ExcelinEd in Action, Madeleine Ashour, Deputy Legislative Director