February 7, 2023 Senate Bill 128 Proponent written

I am Cheryl Gallegos, and I work as a Resource Room teacher at Berean Academy in Elbing, Kansas. I have had the privilege of teaching at Berean for the past 5 years. All aspects of this K-12 private school are outstanding in every area, from teacher-student ratio, parent involvement in education, curriculum, test scores, and student retention, to teacher-student relationships, teacher-parent communication, satisfaction with the school, and community support and involvement.

It would be a great encouragement to many parents in our community if they were able to meet their financial obligations in sending their children to this school, with greater ease. Many parents would love to send their children to Berean, but are prevented from doing this by the financial burden it would place on their families, or in some cases, the impossibility of coming up with the amount of money required for tuition. Parents need alternatives to public school education without placing themselves in financial straits. Not all public schools can meet the needs of all students, and Berean Academy is providing outstanding support in the Resource services department which more parents could access if the financial burden was lifted.

I am writing in support of SB-128, because of this bill's position to provide equal access to lifechanging and excellent education for our Kansas children. Thank you for your kind consideration of these thoughts, and for the opportunity to present a point of view not often popular, but certainly necessary to provide quality education for all our Kansas families.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Gallegos Whitewater, KS 6715