

February 9, 2023

Testimony to the Senate

NAME: Ann Norbury

Testimony to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

TITLE: Kansas citizen, taxpayer

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BILL NUMBER: SB 128 Opportunity Tax Credit

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY

Dear Chair and members of the committee,

I write to voice my opposition to SB 128.

Public funds should support public schools. Public schools accept ALL students. Public funds should not support schools that exclude students. Private schools can pick and choose their students. Allowing a tax credit for parents who choose another educational option is not an appropriate use of public funds. This bill sets no limitations on parents' income, so even wealthy parents would qualify. And families with multiple kids could double or triple their tax credit.

Public schools are the centerpiece of a community, especially in rural areas. Many Kansas counties are rural, and their public schools are an essential part of those communities. Kansas has a constitutional directive to fund public schools.

Furthermore, private schools lack accountability. Private schools should be funded by the families that choose that option, not by Kansas taxpayers.

I ask you to vote NO on SB 128.

Ann Norbury

Shawnee, KS