

Written Testimony for the K-12 Education Budget Committee  
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Position: opponent to HB2550 — Establishing the student empowerment act to provide education savings accounts for certain students to use to attend participating private schools.

HB2553 — Allowing K-12 students to transfer to and attend school in any school district in the state.

I am a parent of two students at Rising Star Elementary School in the Shawnee Mission School District. I am also the PTA president this year. Last year I testified to the committee about my opposition to HB2119 and this year I have the same opinion about HB2550. This is a move that would take funding away from public schools and impair their ability to provide equitable educational opportunities to all students. Tax payer money should support education for all students and what a public school can do well is provide a diverse socioeconomic community that will mirror the world children will be living and working in as adults. Any measure that increases the segregation and partitioning of students will not serve them well as adults nor will it serve the future communities they will be in. To this end, HB2553 also serves to put students and families into homogenized communities. State money for education should support all students equitably and this two bills do not serve that purpose.

Thank you.