

**yes.  
every  
kid.**

Shannon Pahls  
yes. every kid.  
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Representative Kristey Williams, Chair  
House Committee on K-12 Education Budget  
Kansas House of Representatives  
SW 8<sup>th</sup> & SW Van Buren St.  
Topeka, KS 66612

January 24, 2023

Chairwoman Williams and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for holding this hearing and for the opportunity to provide testimony.

My name is Shannon Pahls, and I represent yes. every kid. We are a nonprofit dedicated to creating an environment where every student has access to an individualized learning experience. We support H.B. 2030, which provides families with the flexibility to tailor their child's education to best fit their unique needs without having to sacrifice traditional public school sports or extracurricular activities.

No one understands the unique learning needs of a child like a parent. Over the past few years, there has been a growing number of families seeking an alternative to the traditional approach to education. Parents make those decisions for multiple

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reasons, but ultimately, that decision is driven by the desire to do whatever is in the best interest of their child.

This legislation provides fair access and allows students to grow and flourish in an environment that helps them develop their skills and gain experience.

The Kansas State High School Activities Association's mission statement rightfully states, "our association is strengthened by equity and diversity," and "participation in interscholastic programs promotes student academic achievement." By allowing students who are homeschooled or who are enrolled on a part-time basis to participate in public school activities, the KSHSAA is following its mission of promoting equity and diversity while providing students the developmental advantages that come from participating in extracurricular activities.

H.B. 2030 will expand opportunities for students while empowering families to make decisions that are best for their child's individual needs, values, and priorities. For these reasons, we respectfully ask for your favorable support of this legislation.

Thank you for your time.

Shannon Pahls  
Government Affairs Director  
yes. every kid.