

Date: March 17, 2023

Bill number: HB2304

Written-Only Opponent Testimony

Megan Langford  
Self, Kansas resident

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

My name is Megan Langford and I am a Lenexa resident and parent of two children in the Shawnee Mission School District.

I am opposed to the use of the National Rifle Association's "Eddie Eagle" program in our public schools. It has been deemed ineffective by the American Academy of Pediatrics and it has been opposed by the Kansas State Board of Education, Kansas PTA, and Kansas National Education Association. I believe the onus should be on adults to keep firearms safely out of the hands of children. Kids are naturally curious and telling them not to touch a weapon is simply not enough to guarantee their safety. If lawmakers were really interested in protecting our children, they would support programs that put the responsibility on parents to securely store firearms, not on children.

Further, requiring school districts to use this program if they choose to offer gun safety is an example of government overreach. Local school boards know what is best for their districts.

I urge you to oppose this bill and not bring the NRA and Eddie Eagle into our schools.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Megan Langford