



Testimony to the
House Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development Committee
On
Sub HB 2027
By
Mike Marvin, Executive Director
Kansas Organization of State Employees

Chairman Kleeb and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mike Marvin, and I am the Executive Director of the Kansas Organization of State Employees (KOSE), which represents the working men and women who are executive branch employees and on whose behalf I am privileged to represent. I am writing to speak with you about Sub HB 2027.

KOSE is opposed to this bill and consider it flawed public policy. Involving all parties fully, makes Kansas a better place for our citizens. Collective negotiations give workers a voice in the work they do and the conditions in which they perform this work. We are a nation founded on the principle of all voices being heard. Teachers are able to be a voice quite often against an ideology that is not beneficial to all, or even to a few, who can't speak for themselves. All sides are presented and heard.

KOSE believes that Kansas communities are stronger when the people that we entrust our children and grandchildren to, have a voice at the table. Shutting our teachers out of the negotiations process, can lead to losing an advocate for those children. All of our views are shaped by our experiences. These teachers' views are influenced greatly in the classroom by their experience with your children. Allowing teachers to fully bargain collectively over all conditions of employment is a must, if we are to give that teaching experience a voice. Working together with all sides is a win-win proposition.

If you care about your children's and grandchildren's future, please reject this bill. Silencing their teachers harms them.

I would like to thank you for your time and attention to this letter.

House Commerce & Economic
Development Committee

Date: 3.6.13

Attachment #: 11