

To: Education Committee

From: Kelly Edwards

Written only Proponent of HB2485

Mr. Chairman and the members of the Education Committee, please support Bill HB2485. I currently live in Southern Johnson County in the Blue Valley School District. We live in a rural area of the district. We live just under the 2.5 required distance to receive free transportation to the elementary school for my two children, a first and fifth grader. The route my children would have to walk to school includes a two lane road with ditches and no sidewalks. The speed limit for this road ranges from 35-45 miles per hour. The other obstacle in the way of my children is railroad tracks.

While we do have the availability for my children to ride the bus, this is something we currently have to pay for. While I understand there needs to be rules, there also needs to be exceptions to the rules when students do not have safe passage to school and have extremely dangerous routes they must take to get to school.

I urge you to consider making exceptions for students who do not have safe passage to school-whether it be railroad tracks, two lane roads without sidewalks, and roads with high speed limits. The safety of our children should be of the utmost importance.

Respectfully,

Kelly Edwards