



**To: House Committee on Health and Human Services**  
**From: The Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA),**  
**United School Administrators-Kansas (USA-Kansas) and the Kansas Association**  
**of School Boards (KASB)**

Honorable Rep. Hawkins and Committee Members,

My name is Terry Collins and I am the Legislative Chair for the Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA). Thank you for the opportunity to represent them here today as neutral with a recommendation on HB 2512.

- The fiscal note to HB 2484 states the Governor recommends \$458.0 million from all funding sources for Special Education State Aid in FY 2019. However, the total estimated excess costs for FY 2019 are estimated at \$589.5 million, of which 77.7 percent would be funded by state aid.
- The statutory formula for Special Education State Aid requires state aid totaling 92.0 percent of excess costs.
- Already a special education funding shortfall is predicted at \$133 million for FY '19.
- KASEA, the United School Administrators-Kansas, and the Kansas Association of School Boards all believe that HB 2512 is necessary and important bill. We believe it does establish parity between in-person and telemedicine-delivered therapy services. We also believe these same services should be extended to health care service providers licensed by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB) within the school setting.
- Many of you are aware of the shortages of professionals in education including speech therapists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists. Extending the definition of "health care provider" in this bill, will close a large gap in services provided to children with handicapping conditions across Kansas.
- We also believe this bill could also help narrow the gap in special education funding by allowing us to use Medicaid dollars to help pay for speech &

language, occupational therapists, and physical therapists working for the school system.

On behalf of the Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators, the United School Administrators-Kansas and the Kansas Association of School Boards, I strongly encourage you to add school based health services to the definition of “Health Care Provider” in the bill.

**Terry Collins, Ed.S.**

**KASEA Legislative Committee**

**Director of Doniphan County Education Cooperative #616**

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