



**Written, Proponent Testimony before the  
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development**

**on**

**HB 2287** - creating the Kansas promise scholarship act and the Kansas promise scholarship program fund.

**by**

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**Kansas Association of School Boards**

**February 17, 2021**

Mr. Chair, Members of the Committee:

KASB appears as a proponent of **HB 2287** based on positions adopted by our Delegate Assembly.

Under the goal of preparing students to be economically successful, we have identified the pathway: “Prepare students for postsecondary education and careers,” with two positions:

***Address students affected by COVID-related disruptions in learning.*** *Disadvantaged students may have fallen farther behind in college readiness during remote learning and may face additional economic challenges in attending college. School districts, higher education institutions and the state should explore ways to facilitate the transition from secondary to postsecondary education for all students.*

***Support school redesign principles and programs to improve college and career readiness.*** *Moving many more students to higher levels of readiness for college and careers is critical to both individual and state economic success and will likely require different approaches to learning. The state should support innovative approaches, such as moving from seat time to mastery of competencies.*

We appear in support of **HB 2287** because it would provide additional assistance to help students afford the cost of postsecondary education, up to a two-year degree. Completion of these credentials not only improves average earnings and employment rates but can lead to further education for many students.

The “promise” of financial aid for postsecondary studies may also help motivate students to complete high school and work to be better prepared for such programs.

On the following page, is some additional information about the impact of improving education attainment.

Thank you for your consideration.

