House K-12 Budget Committee

HB 2068: Amending the Tax Credit for Low Income Student Scholarship Program Act

PROPONENT

Mr. Chuck Weber Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference



January 25, 2021

Madam Chair Williams and Members of the Committee:

Thank you so much for giving us this opportunity to offer this written testimony in favor of Amending the Tax Credit for Low Income Student Scholarship Program.

Education is at the heart of the Catholic Mission. Not only does education enable our students to become true Disciples, but it helps then to become highly successful, transformative leaders with a heart for service in their communities. For many of our most vulnerable families, the pathway out of economic hardship depends upon the amazing teachers, volunteers, and fellow students they encounter in Catholic Schools. While our dioceses, parishes, and schools do everything to lower the cost of this education, often at the cost of great personal sacrifices made by our teachers and administrators, many parents are unable to offer this educational option to their children.

Programs such as the Tax Credit for Low Income Student Scholarship Program enable students to choose whatever school they feel is the best fit for their goals.

You can find, in the verbal and written testimony of each of our Dioceses, the tangible, empirical results of the Tax Credit Program. The impact upon our Catholic students only continues to increase as the program grows and reaches more families. On behalf of our Catholic Bishops and all our schools, I ask that you extend the reach of this program.

Thank you again, Madam Chair and Members of the Committee. Please feel to reach out to the Catholic Conference if we can provide any information concerning the success of the Program so far, we will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

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