From: <u>Laura Robeson</u>
To: <u>Holly Broxterman</u>

Subject: Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 2550, Creation of Education Savings Accounts

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Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 2550, Creation of Education Savings Accounts

I am writing in opposition to HB 2550, Creation of Education Savings Accounts. My son, Danny, is a fourth grade student at a public school in the Shawnee Mission School District. Danny is like many typical fourth graders. He loves playing with friends at recess. He is interested in science and loves to read mystery books. Danny is also disabled. He has spastic, quadriplegic cerebral palsy. In order to access education, he needs a full-time 1:1 paraprofessional, he needs physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Danny has as much right to education as any other student.

No private school would accommodate Danny's various needs and this is a form of education that is unavailable to him. Private schools do not have to meet the needs of all students nor are they required to. By virtue of being a private school, they can deny any student necessary resources for their education and are not bound by special education law to meet the needs of students. And that's fine. But they should not receive public tax dollars when they are not held to the same standards as public schools.

Public schools have only recently met constitutional obligations for adequate and equitable funding and this would set our schools back. Please support public schools, please support the rights of students like Danny, and please do not support HB 2550.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laura K. Robeson 8005 Lamar Avenue Prairie Village, KS 66208