

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 11, 2015

HB 2170

The Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools (KCKPS) is neutral on HB 2170.

We are comfortable with the provisions of HB 2170 as it passed the House. We do not, however, see how the placing of the current regulations into the statutes would be of benefit. We believe that changing a regulation, when it is deemed necessary, is easier and certainly faster than passing a new law.

We consider the education of all of our students, regardless of the special challenges they may bring to the classroom, to be our highest priority. We also believe that all of our children, and their families, should be treated with dignity and respect. However, we understand and accept that while these children are in our care, we are responsible for their safety and security. Unfortunately, restraint is sometimes necessary to prevent a child from injuring themselves or others. Our goal is to insure that restraint is sufficient to provide protection, but not excessive and never implemented in a manner that is demeaning.

Our mission is to provide a quality education for all of our students. This task is made easier when the school and parents work harmoniously toward the same goal. We know that we need each other! If HB 2170 becomes law, the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools will strive to insure that implementation will meet the needs of all of our students and their families.

Bill Reardon
Lobbyist, KCKPS