

Legislative Testimony In Support of Tax Credit Scholarship Program Act Amendments

HB 2174

Testimony Presented Before the

House Education Committee

February 18, 2015

To Mr. Chairman Dr. Ron Highland, DVM, PhD and the House Education Committee Members, my name is Bishop Wade Moore, Jr. I serve in a number of leadership roles within the city of Wichita, Kansas. I am the Senior Pastor of Christian Faith Centre Church which is a multi-cultural congregation of 400+ members. I am also the President of the Greater Wichita Ministerial League representing over 40 churches in our city from various denominations and faiths. I am also the Founder of the Urban Preparatory Academy-Wichita, a private school located in the heart of Northeast Wichita.

We began the Urban Preparatory Academy this past fall in August. We offer children in grades K-5th and opportunity to attend a great school of choice. We have a very rigorous curriculum in Math and Reading. We assessed students coming to us from the public school system in the beginning of the school year and at the end of the first semester. We have seen extreme growth in their academics and parents have testified of their child's attitude toward school, homework and social growth to be amazing.

I am a proponent of HB2174 Tax Credit Scholarship Program for Low Income Students. Some of the technical changes that I feel would better benefit the students we serve and intend to serve is to remove the waiver that would prohibit students from receiving special education services once they are in a private school and revising the age restriction from 6 years of age to 7 years of age for those entering into school. There are other technical changes in the bill that I am in favor of as well. I am available for questions and answers should any of the committee members have any that would further clarify why this bill will work to benefit the students.

Sincerely,

Wade Moore, Jr.

Urban Preparatory Academy-Wichita