

**Dr. Marvin J. Miller**

Friday, 29 January 2016

RE: Written Testimony on House Bill 2504

Dear members of the House Education Committee:

I have recently seen documents which predict the impact school consolidation would have across the state in general and upon Sumner County school districts in particular. The families in my Wellington congregation have exercised their school choice in choosing multiple local building sites and districts which are the best match for their children's temperament and talents. Many of these districts already have developed creative inter-local agreements and work well together while maintaining their own particular identity. Allowing districts to voluntarily develop ways to realign is a much more reasonable pursuit than mandating a complicated redistricting system every 10 years. This proposed bill does not serve Kansas well.

I am most concerned, however, about the students. Many students with special needs receive some services within their local town classroom – allowing them to develop relationships that will exist for a lifetime. Massive redistricting and the inevitable segregation of students with disabilities into a location miles away from existing natural supports is extremely detrimental to both them and society as a whole.

*I urge you to please **OPPOSE HB 2504.***

Regards,

*Pastor Marvin*

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this letter are mine and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of any agency or organization with which I am associated.