Testimony for Public Hearing Senate Appropriations Committee SB 273 March 10, 2015

> Melissa Wright 2030 S. Madison Wichita, KS 67211

Hello, my name Melissa Wright. I am a virtual student with Project Encore of South Central Kansas Education Center

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 273. I am opposing the elimination of virtual funding for anyone who is 18 years and older.

Without a virtual program like Project Encore I wouldn't have had the privilege to write this testimony. This program has given me the ability to complete my high school education and at the same time keep my job and raise my son, two very important things in my life. Other onsite education programs had an attendance requirement. This was very difficult for me to meet considering my other important responsibilities. Because of virtual learning and the flexibility it provides, I am proud to say I will be finished this spring and receive my high school diploma in May. I am very grateful that I had the chance to be a part of a virtual program that will allow me to pursue my dreams and create a life for my son that I can be proud of.

Thank you for your time and consideration of virtual funding for people who are 18 and older.