

February 9, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

NAME: Ace Allen

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BILL NUMBER: SB 128, Opportunity Tax Credit

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 128.

The state has no business disbursing tax money to private schools for which there is little or no accountability, few or no requirements for teacher training or certification, little or no oversight of student progress and welfare, no requirement to educate children with special needs or with financial constraints, and few or no constraints on what can be taught. (Current examples include Nazi ideology, religious instruction, and disregard or contempt for the history of our complicated, conflicted, great country.)

Furthermore, the great majority of rural Kansas counties do not have private schools, would be unable to send their children even if they wanted to, and yet their tax dollars that could be improving their rural schools would be diverted to often-wealthy or heavily subsidized private and parochial schools.

Finally, this bill is a tax credit. To term it an "Opportunity" is simply whitewashing jargon.

Please vote NO on SB 128.

Very sincerely,

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