

PROPONENT

SB 128 – Ad Astra Opportunity Tax Credit

Written Only Testimony

Tracey Barton
Larned, Kansas
District 33

Dear Honorable Chairman Tyson, Vice-Chair Peck, Ranking Minority Holland, and Committee Members:

I kindly request your support of SB 128. I have personally led a non-accredited private school for the past ten years for my two children. I have invested financially in quality education for our students over that period of time. Unfortunately, all of our tax dollars paid have been directed into the public education system, even though there is no direct benefit for my students.

By providing a tax credit, it will enable me to continue providing quality education to my children. For the past six years, we have participated in a Classical Conversations program which is recognized by colleges as a quality, desirable program—most colleges prefer these students over many others because of the success/graduation rate of these students. The approximate annual expense is \$3000 plus travel to class each week per student. Both of my students have excelled in this program and receiving a tax credit would help offset the overall cost.

A tax credit is appropriate for any family who chooses an alternative method of education from that of the public school system. Before moving to Kansas eleven years ago, my home state of Illinois offered a tax credit to families for this very purpose.

Again, I kindly ask for your support of SB 128.

Thank you,
Tracey Barton
Larned, KS

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