

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2663

As Recommended by House Committee on
Education

Brief*

HB 2663 would modify the requirements for student cohorts for school district at-risk accountability plans.

SB 387 (2024) created a two-year pilot program, commencing in school year 2024-2025, that requires school districts to establish at-risk student accountability plans and annually report on at-risk student performance and show longitudinal academic improvement for those students. The bill also established requirements for cohort groups for the pilot program and statewide program.

The bill would make the following modifications to the requirements for student cohort groups:

- Change the requirement that one cohort consist of third-grade students to instead be fourth-grade students;
- Replace the requirement that one cohort group consist of students who qualify for free meals under the National School Lunch Program with the requirement that each of the cohort groups may be identified by one of the subgroups identified for state assessment purposes or students who are identified as eligible to receive at-risk educational programs and services;

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

- Provide that if no cohort group can be formed with the required minimum number of students, then the district would be directed to consult with the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) to determine an appropriate alternative cohort group; and
- Change the academic goal for each cohort group from improvement on the state assessment for both English language arts and mathematics to academic improvement on either the state assessment for English language arts or mathematics.

The bill would also make conforming and technical changes to remove outdated provisions that applied only to the pilot program.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Education at the request of Representative Estes.

House Committee on Education

In the House Committee hearing, written-only **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of USD 459 (Bucklin), who stated that the bill's requested changes would allow smaller districts to develop alternative cohort groupings and thus allow equitable data to be collected.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of KSDE. The conferee explained the changes proposed in the bill and that the changes were recommendations from the pilot program. The conferee also stated the bill would only pertain to how student cohorts are determined.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, KSDE indicates that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on state aid to school districts or the agency's administrative costs.

The Kansas Association of School Boards states that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not included in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

Education; at-risk accountability plans; student cohorts