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TOPEKA
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Lana Gordon Chairperson House Education Budget Committee

Re: HB 2439

Dear Madam Chairperson:

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak to you on House Bill 2439.

HB 2439 is a bill sponsored by Representative Jana Goodman and me that relates to the "2<sup>nd</sup> Count" of military students, meaning children whose parent or parents are active-duty military and who are stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas.

KSA 2011 Supp. 72-6448 stipulates that each school year the state board of education shall determine the number of pupils enrolled in each school district on September 20<sup>th</sup>. It further allows for a 2<sup>nd</sup> count of military pupils enrolled in each district on February 20<sup>th</sup> of the school year, who were not enrolled on the preceding September 20<sup>th</sup> date.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> count is extremely important to school districts such as USD 475 that has a military installation within its boundaries, and where its student population can increase significantly between September and February of the school year. In the case of USD 475 which serves Ft. Riley, the student population can vary by as many as 400 pupils. By conducting the 2<sup>nd</sup> count and recomputing the adjusted enrollment of the district, the district's funding can be adjusted to account for the increase in student population.

Currently, KSA 2011 Supp. 72-6448 is set to expire at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. HB2439, by repealing KSA 2011 Supp., 72-6448, effectively makes the  $2^{nd}$  count for those school districts serving the military permanent.

Thank you. I will stand for questions.

Respectfully

Rep. James P. Fawcett