State of Kansas House of Representatibes

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Ponka-We Victors Representative, 103rd District

March 18, 2013

Dear Chairman Siegfreid and members of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee,

I am testifying today in support of HB 2373 which will amend K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 38-2285 by adding language to the statute to include students in the custody of a federally recognized Indian tribe in the state of Kansas to also be awarded a high school diploma once the other requirements of the bill are met.

I am testifying in support of HB 2373 because this is a very important issue that must be resolved in order to give current students in custody of a federally recognized Indian tribe in the state of Kansas the opportunity to graduate this year. This amendment is a positive change to the current law because it will include the Native American children who were left out of the bill that was passed last year. Furthermore, there will be no fiscal effect on the state by the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your time and I ask the committee to please pass out HB 2373 favorably.

Sincerely,

Rep. Ponka-We Victors