



KANSAS POLICY INSTITUTE

ADVOCATING FOR FREE MARKETS AND THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL LIBERTY

Testimony to House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Econ. Development HB 2326 Terms and Conditions of Professional Service

February 19, 2015

Dave Trabert, President

Chairman Hutton and members of the Committee,

We appreciate this opportunity to present written testimony in support of HB 2326, which gives individual teachers the freedom to negotiate their own terms and conditions of professional service.

The question is a simple matter of personal freedom. Should teachers be forced to abide by an agreement negotiated by a third party even if they do not want to be represented by a third party, or should individuals have the right to negotiate on their own behalf if they so choose?

HB 2326 basically declares that the rights of an individual cannot be superseded by the interests of a union or by the interests of individuals who choose to be represented by a union. Kansas is a right-to-work state, which gives individuals the right to work without being compelled to join a union against their will. Kansans should also have the right to negotiate their own terms and conditions of professional employment and not be compelled to be represented by third parties against their will.

We support HB 2326 and encourage the Committee to recommend it favorably.

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