

My name is Marsha Ratzel, 8007 Canterbury St., Prairie Village KS 66206. I represent myself and believe I have expertise to bring to this matter since I've been a Kansas middle school teacher since 1992.

I am against a bill (SB67 and HB 2292) because it removes the Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards...taking us back to 2009 standards. Those 2009 standards are out of date and don't represent the best thinking of Kansas scientists, community members, higher education and K12 teachers from across the country.

Kansas Science has been hard at work for the past 5 years reviewing, commenting, revising the KS Career and College Readiness Standards to make sure they represent what needs our business and engineering communities have articulated and what is best practice for K12 student learning. The new standards will better prepare our students for college and improves the connection to engineering standards. I was on the committee of dozens of representatives from across the state that work tirelessly to make sure these standards were reflective of Kansas business, Kansas teachers and Kansas college/universities. Returning to the 2009 would be a serious mistake in judgement and hurt our K12 students.

The KS Science CCRS represent the best thinking from people across the entire state, multitudes of K12 teachers, from every kind of K12 district, higher education and industry. To disregard their recommendations and years of work on building a strong, viable and state of the art set of K12 science standards is not in the best interests of Kansas students or our state.

I am opposed to both SB 67 and HB 2292.

Thank you for the chance to give testimony.

Marsha Ratzel
Middle School Teacher and National Board Certification, EA Science since 2001
8007 Canterbury St.
Prairie Village, KS 66206