

From the Desk of
Larry Alley
517 Quail Nest Rd
Winfield, Kansas 67156

March 4, 2015

HB 2393 Requiring school districts to use GASB

Proponent testimony in favor of this bill

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members,

It is my understanding this legislation will provide a standard financial reporting system for all our school districts, and provide transparency for our school districts budgets and financial statement.

As a former school board member (USD 396), I believe all taxpayers deserve to have a clear way to understand how their taxes are being spent for public education. They need to be able to understand where the money is being spent and where the funding is coming from. We as citizens need to demand transparency in this budget process, we need to understand where our district is spending compared to other districts. Without a standard system this is impossible, how can we expect our elected leaders to vote on education spending if we cannot get accurate data from our school districts? We need these standards to determine the local school districts financial health, what assets the district owns and how much debt it owes. Our elected officials and the voting public should demand standards.

It is my understanding our local districts are losing out on millions of Federal dollars because our School districts don't use GASB accounting. We need to ensure our school districts report their financial statements correctly and with consistency compared with all other public school in the state. We need to give our districts the ability to request Federal funding when available.

To do this, we encourage you to support HB 2393 requiring our school districts to use GASB.

Sincerely,

Larry Alley

Lwalley1@cox.net

316-641-7111

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