

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7686
barbara.bollier@house.ks.gov



6910 OVERHILL ROAD
MISSION HILLS, KANSAS 66208
(913) 485-2121

BARBARA BOLLIER
21ST DISTRICT

Testimony for HB 2394

The Governor's Budget for K-12 calls for the elimination of \$1.5 million for Technical Education support, specifically to pay for certificates of completion and additional funding to support the tech ed programs. When that portion of the budget was being discussed, I asked questions regarding the number of students acquiring a certificate and in what categories, the cost of the certificates, and how the additional monies were being expended for the total just under \$1.5 million. Investigation showed the following certificates being awarded, with the vast majority being for CNAs. The CAN certification is necessary to move forward for an higher level nursing degree in many of our colleges and junior colleges. Further investigation revealed that most of the certificates awarded fell in the \$50 range, but the most expensive certificate could cost up to \$500 for certain welding certifications.

Rather than eliminating a successful and growing program, we pursued an option to fund the certification part of this program along with a small supplemental monetary support to pay for such things as uniforms, supplies, etc. HB would provide funding for certification tests plus \$250 per student for supplemental supplies up to \$750,000 total. Money will be designated on a first-come, first-served basis if more than the total is requested.