

Honorable Senate Education Committee Chairman and Committee Members

Though I have not been involved with the birth of SB60, I fully support what the bill will do for the homeschooled students of Kansas. I'd like to share with you this statement- "High school sports is an important part of a complete education. Students learn teamwork, self discipline and other skills which they use later for success in all walks of life. " Those aren't my words; those are the words of the KSHSAA in one of their 30 second radio ad spots. Those words are special to me. The hard work, self discipline, perseverance, and relentless pursuit of a goal along with some natural skills allowed me to earn an athletic scholarship to college. That in turn, provided opportunities in life I otherwise would not have had. The skills embedded in me through high school sports, and my gratitude, has given me the desire to give back and make things better for kids and high school sports ever since. Ironically, with their opposition to SB60, the KSHSAA is trying to stop homeschool students from reaping the benefits mentioned in the KSHSAA's very own public words. Like all students, homeschoolers have dreams too, and they deserve the undeniable benefits of competing in high school sports and activities. Please be a supporter of all students... public, private, or homeschooled. I hope members of both political parties here today will join together, and make a positive difference in a student's life, by voting yes for SB60. Thank you all for your service to the people of our great state.

Respectfully,

Gary Brockus

Overland Park, KS