

To: Kansas Senate Standing Committee on Education  
From: Kansas Music Educators Association  
Re: SENATE BILL No. 60

The Kansas Music Educators Association (KMEA) is an organization of music educators committed to the concept that the study of music is a positive influence in the lives of individuals and society as a whole. Whether children receive their education in a public, private, or parochial school, or at home, music education remains a core subject (as defined in ESEA) and KMEA maintains that adequate music education resources should be available to all students, regardless of how children obtain their education.

KMEA appreciates how music brings meaning and richness to our heritage and culture and we encourage the study and making of music by all. However, Senate Bill 60, in its current form, does present some questions and concerns that KMEA believes should be addressed.

- 1.) Under Senate Bill 60 “Any student who is a resident of a school district shall be permitted to participate in any activities offered by such school district regardless of whether such student attends a school in such school district on a full-time basis.”

How would SB 60 address the co-curricular activities, such as band, choir, orchestra, that require daily instruction in the classroom?

- Could a student participate in a large group performance without ever rehearsing with the group as a member of the class?
- Should a student be required to enroll as part-time students in order to participate in music classes?

- 2.) Although Kansas tax dollars help pay for public education, including curricular and extracurricular programs such as music instruction, districts receive funds for education based on district enrollments.

Given that music instruction is often underfunded and understaffed, how would SB 60 insure that increased student participation in music classes would result in increased funding to cover expenses for materials, instruments, or fees?

- Could a student be required to pay fees before being allowed to participate in a music class?

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kansas Music Educators Association

