

KANSAS OFFICE of
REVISOR of STATUTES

LEGISLATURE of THE STATE of KANSAS
Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.

300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Huebert
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: February 20, 2020

Subject: HB 2256 – Creating the Community Leaders Service Act.

House Bill No. 2256 (HB 2256) would create the Community Leaders Service Act (Act) to provide high school students with an opportunity to earn money for a postsecondary education while serving in their community. Under the Act, the local board of education for a school district can elect to establish a community leaders service program for high school students enrolled in the district. Upon establishing a program, the board of education must enter into an agreement with a community organization, which is defined under the bill as a nonprofit organization that provides services that assist elderly individuals with daily living activities, such as transportation, meal service, and housekeeping.

Each community leaders service program has two components. First, each student wishing to participate in the program must first enroll in and successfully complete a community leaders service class offered by the school district.

Next, a student is assigned to work with the community organization in providing services to elderly individuals. The services cannot require any professional license, certification, or permit to be performed. Students will be supervised at all times by community organization personnel.

Each student participating in a program will also earn money towards a postsecondary education. The community organization is required to record the hours the student worked as part of the program and submit those records to the school district. The school district will then calculate a payment amount based on the hours worked by the student and the hourly work rate established by HB 2256. The work rate for the current school year is set at \$15, and increases each year in accordance with the increase in the consumer price index for the Midwest region.

KANSAS OFFICE of
REVISOR of STATUTES
LEGISLATURE of THE STATE of KANSAS

As part of the program, each community organization is required to establish a college savings account in the name of the participating student. The school district will remit the payment amount calculated based on the hours worked and the work rate to the community organization for deposit in the student's account. The student may continue to work under the program and receive deposits to their account until they graduate from high school.

Upon high school graduation, the student may begin requesting withdrawals from their college savings account. The withdrawal requests are submitted to the community organization and must include the amount and the reason for the request, such as tuition payment. If the request is for an appropriate college expense then the withdrawal will be approved and the moneys will be sent to the student.

A student's account will remain open and active until such time as it either runs out of funds, or there are no withdrawals for 24 consecutive months. At such time the account will be closed and any remaining moneys in the account will be remitted back to the school district for deposit in the district's general fund.

If enacted, HB 2256 would become effective on July 1, 2020.