

KANSAS OFFICE *of*  
**REVISOR *of* STATUTES**

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

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Chairman Huebert  
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: February 16, 2022

Subject: HB 2621 – Prohibiting a unilateral change in educational placement for a deaf or hard-of-hearing student who gains access to hearing.

House Bill No. 2621 (HB 2621) would create a new law recognizing the academic, social, and developmental benefits of American Sign Language (ASL) as a foundational language for students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. The bill would prohibit the dismissal of a student who had established ASL as a foundational language from the Kansas State School for the Deaf for the reason that the student had gained hearing through any means. Any change in educational placement of such students and any change in the special education or related services provided to such students is governed by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Special Education for Exceptional Children Act.

If enacted, HB 2621 would become effective on July 1, 2022.