

House Education Committee  
Proponent Written Testimony for HB 2631  
By Martha Gabehart, Executive Director  
Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for this opportunity to provide written proponent testimony in support of HB 2631.

HB 2631 establishes in statute the Career Technical Education Credential and Transition Incentive for Employment Success Act. The original program was established under the Brownback administration. It proved to be an effective program for students who might not have an opportunity to go to college, to gain vocational education that makes them better candidates for work after high school that will pay far more than minimum wage.

The Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC) has always supported programs and services that help people with disabilities become employed in competitive integrated employment. The Career Technical Education Program, otherwise known as SB 155, was effective for students with disabilities as well as those without disabilities. It gave them the training they needed to become employed and avoid going on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) living the rest of their lives in extreme poverty.

The Commission urges you to support passage of HB 2631

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.

We encourage the committee to pass the bill out favorably.

Thank you again for this opportunity to submit written proponent testimony.