



**KANSAS ASSOCIATION  
OF SCHOOL BOARDS**  
Serving Educational Leaders, Inspiring Student Success

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**Oral, Proponent Testimony before the  
Senate Committee on Education**

**on**

**SB 62** - relating to student vision screenings and the standards therefor; establishing the Kansas children's vision health and school readiness commission.

**by**

**Mark Tallman, Associate Executive Director  
Kansas Association of School Boards**

**February 4, 2021**

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee:

KASB appears as a proponent of **SB 62** based on a policy position adopted by our Delegate Assembly.

Under the goal of "Increase Support for Student Health and Safety," we have the position:

***Continue efforts to address other identified student health and safety issues. These include strategies to develop comprehensive, evidence-based, locally focused strategies in areas such as bullying and vaping.***

While our position does not specifically address the issue of vision screening, school districts know that students cannot be successful in academic, social and emotional development and preparation for college and careers unless basic health needs are met. This bill updates a long-standing state law requiring schools to provide vision screening to help ensure students can see to read and learn.

KASB does not have a specific position on the establishment of new vision health and school readiness commission, but certainly supports on-going efforts in these areas if the committee agrees with this approach.

Thank you for your consideration.