



1108 S. BROADWAY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS 66048
(913) 912-3459

JEFF PITTMAN

Feb 1, 2022

To the Education Committee Chairman and Committee,

I am writing in support of SB 341 and in support of reconsidering how federal impact aid is handled by the state of Kansas. As others will testify, we are one of the only states that take the impact aid away from the district it was intended for and redistribute it to all schools.

The primary reason we should reconsider is that, as the military looks at potential base closures and repositioning of military assets, they look at many factors. The use of impact aid to directly assist in the education of military and other impacted children on or near federal lands has specifically been called out by top military leaders in recent years. Kansas' treatment of impact aid can be seen as a negative by these leaders.

Students in one of my school districts, USD 207 have nearly a 95% turnover rate over a three year span. They have had to operate under consistently stricter COVID protocols. The families have had their military member often deployed in US overseas engagements as the US has been in a constant series of conflicts over the past two decades. This causes stress on the military child. This is where the impact aid is intended to go to make up for the cut in local revenue.

I realize there are considerations around the education formula. However, I do see a need to change the way impact aid works so that the federal intent is met, while holding harmless, aka no decrease in funding is made to, the impacted school districts

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey Pittman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

State Senator Jeff Pittman
Leavenworth KS