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Written Only Proponent Testimony

HB 2003 -AN ACT concerning education; relating to the Kansas state high school activities association and the system for classification of high schools, authorizing the classification system to be based on student attendance and other factors; amending K.S.A. 72-7114 and repealing the existing section.

Presented to the House Committee on Education

Thursday, January 19, 2023

By

Deena Horst and Ann Mah, Legislative Liaisons

Kansas State Board of Education

Chairman Thomas, Vice - Chairwoman Estes, Ranking Minority Member Stogsdill and members of the House Committee on Education:

Thank you for allowing us to share our thoughts regarding HB 2003.

Several Kansas schools have identified an issue with the level of competition in their classification. On behalf of their students and their constituency, they have determined a solution to the issue which will be shared with you by Bill Faflick, Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) Executive Director. The solution has been approved by the KSHSAA Executive Committee, the KSHSAA Board of Directors and a majority of schools within four of the six classifications. As per the requirement, the State Board of Education also approved the proposed changes prior to submission to the Legislature of the addition of *'and other factors'* to the current process.

The proposed change to the statute will enable KSHSAA to enact a solution to the multitude of consecutive state championship losses public schools experience in their size classification when competing with the private schools which recruit their athletes. Instead of classification being determined only by student attendance, passage of HB 2003 would allow other factors to be considered by KSHSAA when determining the classification in which schools would be placed.

Thank you for your consideration of the suggested changes.

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.