

February 9, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

NAME: Amanda Simmons

TITLE: Kansas Parent

EMAIL ADDRESS: amanda.k.simmons4@gmail.com

BILL NUMBER: SB 128, Opportunity Tax Credit

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to SB 128.

I am a parent with two children in public schools in Kansas. I am frustrated to see that the legislature is again trying to move funds from public schools to private. The schools in Kansas are one of our most significant successes despite the fact that they struggle with budgets and a lack of funding. I was hoping that the Gannon Act was a sign our state was moving in the right direction. Instead, I see that there are further efforts to rob the schools of their funding.

Public funds should stay in public schools. I understand that some parents prefer their children be taught both education and religion in the same setting. I support that decision regardless of the religion – Christian, Jewish, Muslim, or any other. However, my tax dollars should not be used to further a religion's reach.

Please consider these concerns as you evaluate SB 128 and OPPOSE the legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Simmons

Kansas Parent