



Proponent Testimony for HB 2703  
For the Senate Education Committee  
March 12, 2024  
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Director of Government Relations & Legislative Affairs

Chairperson Baumgardner, members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2703.

KNEA has several resolutions dealing with teaching and learning issues.

One such resolution dealing with At-Risk students states:

*Kansas NEA believes that the Kansas State Department of Education's term of at-risk students should be replaced with "students of promise."*

*Kansas NEA believes there must be increased development and maintenance of alternative programs to meet the needs of students of promise and/or with students with learning needs as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Act, including those who have been suspended or expelled from school.*

*Kansas NEA further believes that students of promise be considered as any student working towards meeting state academic requirements for mastery of skills for graduation. Students of promise shall not be penalized or excluded based on the rate of absenteeism, repeated suspensions or expulsions, homelessness, transience, and/or migrant status.*

HB 2703 is a small change in current law that could have a big impact on the students that is intended to address.

We ask the Committee to support HB 2703.