

**Written PROPONENT testimony for HB 2669: AN ACT Codifying the mental health intervention team/ program administered by the Kansas department for aging and disability services in state statute.**

To: Madam Chair Representative Landwehr and committee members

From: Alexandra Converse, RN  
All Saints Catholic School  
Registered Nurse for All Saints Catholic School through Orion Education and Training

Date: March 18, 2024

Madam Chair Baumgardner and members of the committee,

My name is Alexandra Converse, and I am the Registered Nurse for All Saints Catholic School in Wichita, KS. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony as a PROPONENT to bill HB 2669.

The story I desire to share is an example of a low-income student that attends All Saints Catholic School, and this student has benefited from the mental health services offered through the EANS services. Student A is a young student (elementary grade level) that has a diagnosis of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (DM) and faces a family dynamic of both parents not living in the same household.

Student A has grown up with parents facing the challenge of a low household income and an evolving health condition that requires 24 hour monitoring. The challenges the student faces daily can be crippling for any child under the circumstances listed. Fortunately, Student A has an (EANS-funded) mental health counselor (and registered nurse) who provides professional help. The professional help offered keeps Student A focused—as best as possible—on academics and assists in navigation of students Type 1 DM on an emotional and health level. EANS-funded mental health workers have not only benefited Student A, but have provided support, guidance, and care for all students in attendance at All Saints Catholic School.

The idea of losing mental health workers at the school is crippling because the students in attendance deserve the services to be included in their education.

Thank you, Madam Chair and members of the committee, for allowing me to provide support for HB 2669. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can be of assistance to you in this worthy endeavor to protect our children and provide needed services to them. Thank you for your consideration.

Alexandra Converse, RN

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