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**January 24, 2023**

Written Testimony to House K-12 Education Budget Committee  
Honorable Chair, Representative Kristey Williams  
Patricia Rosario, Committee Assistant  
785-296-3971—[Patricia.Rosario@house.ks.gov](mailto:Patricia.Rosario@house.ks.gov)  
Room 352-S, State Capitol Building

**Oppose [House Bill 2030](#) – Authorizing nonpublic school students to participate in KSHSAA activities.** Hearing: Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 3:30 PM Room 546-S

Honorable Chairman Williams and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding HB 2030 – KSHSAA participation rules. The bill appears to conflict with the mission and beliefs of KSHSAA. The Kansas PTA is opposed to this bill, primarily for two reasons and in alignment with our Legislative Priority 1.<sup>1</sup>

**First, Kansas PTA recognizes the authority of the KSHSAA Board, which includes students.** We share the belief that “the KSHSAA is the recognized state authority on interscholastic activity programs.”<sup>2</sup> This bill conflicts with existing KSHSAA participation rules and challenges the authority of member school representatives to navigate issues of fairness and equity across the state.

**Second, Kansas PTA also recognizes that “student participation in interscholastic activity programs and competitions is a privilege.”**<sup>2</sup> Kansas public school students must work hard to earn the right to represent their school. The student athletes and activity competitors must regularly attend all their classes and earn passing grades and uphold behavioral standards. These public school requirements and commitments take time away from training and practice. This time and energy would be available to nonpublic school students, systematically embedding an uneven playing field that undermines equity and fairness in this student-centered organization. Further, the public school students contribute to their school’s community and represent their classmates through the school teams and activities.

Many Kansas public and nonpublic students participate in club and community recreational activities. This choice remains available to all Kansas youth. Competing for one’s public school is also an option open to all Kansas youth, through regular enrollment in the public schools.

On behalf of the parents, teachers, and patrons of the Kansas PTA, we support the work of the KSHSAA Board and stand opposed to HB 2030. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Cc: Brooke Burkett, VP of Advocacy  
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### ***THE PTA POSITION***

*Kansas PTA is a nonpartisan association that promotes the welfare of children and youth. The PTA does not endorse any candidate or political party. Rather, we advocate for policies and legislation that affect Kansas youth in alignment with our legislative platform and priorities. [PTA mission and purpose](#) have remained the same since our inception over 100 years ago, focused on facilitating every child's potential and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.*

### **Endnotes**

1. Kansas PTA Legislative Priorities (2021-2023). <https://kansas-pta.org/advocacy/legislative-priorities/>
2. KSHSAA website (2023). <https://www.kshsaa.org/Public/General/MissionStatement.cfm>