

February 7, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

NAME: Donna Obertein

TITLE: Kansas Citizen

EMAIL ADDRESS: d.oberstein@icloud.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 express my opposition to bill SB 128.

Public tax dollars should remain with our public schools that accept and educate all children.

Our children attended private school as well as public school. At no time during their years in private school did we want or expect the state to cover the choice we had made.

We should not be diverting public tax dollars to private schools at a time when legislators should be focused on the **\$160 million shortfall in special education funding**. The state should fully fund special education, not private schools.

SB 128 lacks oversight and provides no review process to evaluate if students utilizing our taxpayer dollars at private or home schools are achieving.

Taxpayer dollars should require the same oversight and transparency as our public schools.

SB 128 is a bill which must be opposed in order to assure quality education for ALL Kansas children.

Thank you for your consideration.

Donna Oberstein

Overland Park