

STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

JEFF LONGBINE
SENATOR, 17TH DISTRICT
2801 LAKERIDGE RD
EMPORIA, KS 66801

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 235-E
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7384
jeff.longbine@senate.ks.gov

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
VICE CHAIR: FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE
COMMERCE
FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS
LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT
UTILITIES

March 15, 2013

The Honorable Steve Abrams, Chairman
Senate Education Committee

Dear Senator Abrams,

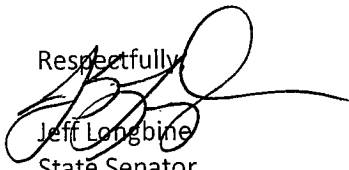
I appreciate the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of HB 2109. This important bill allows school districts, which serve military students, the opportunity for a 2nd headcount.

The schools districts affected by this bill have many challenges in educating the children of our Soldiers. Our military is a transient population that can be deployed or reassigned on a moment's notice. This can be very disruptive for the families of these soldiers. Often times the family will follow the soldiers to their new assignments. More times than not, this does not occur at the beginning of the school year.

The Military has a strong presence in our State with multiple installations. Fort Riley in 2012 had a Military population of 19,468 and an additional 26,415 family members. The school districts that educate this population take pride in educating these children but need to be compensated when large enrollment changes occur.

During the last BRAC the Military stated that State and Local support for soldiers and their families can be a deciding factor in troop assignments. I ask the Committee to support our soldiers and their children by passing out favorably HB 2109

Respectfully,


Jeff Longbine
State Senator
District #17

Senate Education Committee
Date 3-15-13
Attachment 6