



**House K-12 Education Budget Committee  
Representative Fred Patton, Chair**

**Testimony on HB 2445 - March 13, 2018**

Chairman Patton and members of the Committee,

Kansas City Kansas Public Schools supports three of the four changes in HB 2445, but must stand in opposition to this bill, because of language in Section 3 which guides the use of the Local Option Budget (LOB). Section 3 provides for a district to increase the LOB over the statewide average only by a protest petition and election process. This procedure was found to be unconstitutional by the Gannon trial court as a violation of the equity test. It does not allow equal access to resources.

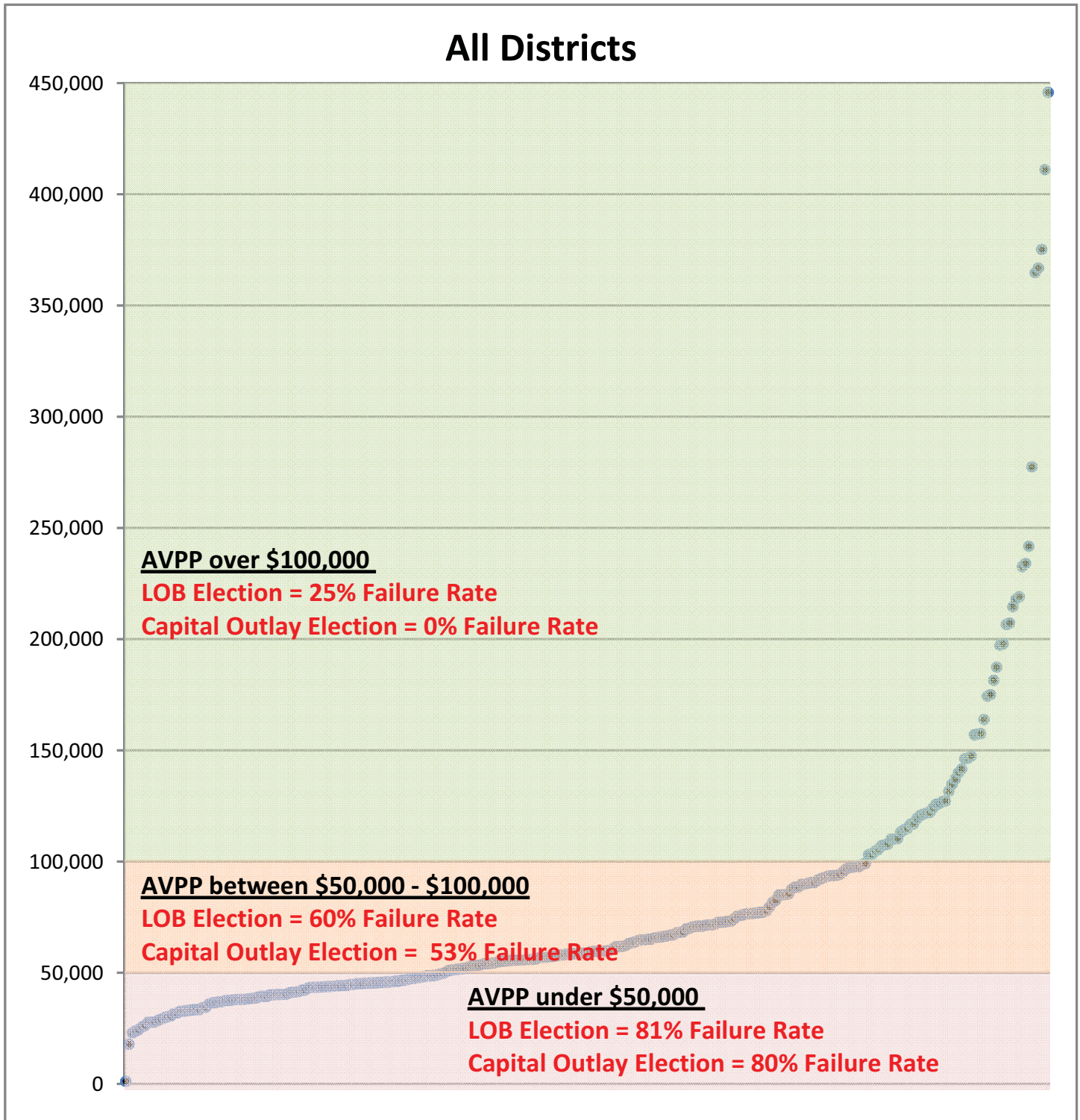
Attached please find information considered by the Court in regard to the success ratio of LOB elections. A clear correlation exists between a district's wealth and its ability to gain voter approval of a board resolution that is certain to raise mill levies. These charts make clear that an election requirement puts low property wealth districts at a significant disadvantage with regard to use of the LOB.

In addition, there is a great deal of talk about the importance of local control here in the Capitol. Local school boards, who are elected by the residents of their community, are capable of making the best decisions for their community. We believe a local vote by school boards to raise the LOB makes sense. Ultimately, the voters decide if they are happy with the decisions a school board makes.

We also have concerns about Section 3 (h), which states that "*The board of any school district that desires to increase its local option budget authority for the immediately succeeding school year shall submit written notice of such intent to the state board by April 1 of the current school year.*" The LOB amount is generally determined by school districts **after** state aid is decided. Unfortunately, state aid is seldom decided by April 1. Thus, districts would be forced to estimate LOB state aid, which might result in districts increasing their LOB unnecessarily, in order to guard against changes in state aid and/or LOB rules which take place after April 1.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

# Assessed Valuation Per Pupil



1995-2012 Election data from KASB

AVPP data from Defendant Exhibit 1064, #F3, KSDE 2011-12 1EDLA2550

## LOB Elections

Passed		AVPP
374	Sublette	214,604
468	Healy	197,854
482	Dighton	175,055
403	Otis-Bison	126,049
401	Chase-Raymond	125,673
229	Blue Valley	107,883
466	Scott County	93,705
466	Scott County	93,705
294	Oberlin	93,343
497	Lawrence	89,748
418	McPherson	70,971
448	Inman	66,613
233	Olathe	64,746
496	Pawnee Heights	60,019
492	Flinthills	58,129
400	Smoky Valley	56,136
237	Smith Center	55,672
408	Marion-Florence	53,316
405	Lyons	46,598
434	Santa Fe Trail	43,180
308	Hutchinson	41,322
487	Herington	38,227

Failed		AVPP
403	Otis-Bison	126,049
403	Otis-Bison	126,049
412	Hoxie Community	97,467
494	Syracuse	97,284
466	Scott County	93,705
294	Oberlin	93,343
415	Hiawatha	91,655
383	Manhattan-Ogden	87,813
489	Hays	85,166
437	Auburn Washburn	77,189
206	Remington-Whitewater	76,555
473	Chapman	67,085
260	Derby	63,081
431	Hoisington	57,995
431	Hoisington	57,995
431	Hoisington	57,995
259	Wichita	56,805
237	Smith Center	55,672
453	Leavenworth	53,527
250	Pittsburg	53,318
464	Tonganoxie	49,459
405	Lyons	46,598
463	Udall	45,810
469	Lansing	45,157
389	Eureka	44,113
380	Vermillion	43,680
307	Ell-Saline	43,541
498	Valley Heights	43,497
253	Emporia	39,996
247	Cherokee	38,000
402	Augusta	37,025
394	Rose Hill	33,488
394	Rose Hill	33,488
462	Central	33,200
443	Dodge City	31,546
261	Haysville	26,313
261	Haysville	26,313

## Capital Outlay Elections

Passed		AVPP
210	Hugoton	217,994
482	Dighton	175,055
303	Ness City	126,907
401	Chase-Raymond	125,673
274	Oakley	121,957
225	Fowler	79,552
329	Mill Creek Valley	73,188
398	Peabody-Burns	71,461
473	Chapman	67,085
330	Mission Valley	64,947
349	Stafford	61,882
458	Basehor-Linwood	59,609
373	Newton	42,130

Failed		AVPP
438	Skyline	72,612
418	McPherson	70,971
315	Colby	69,774
330	Mission Valley	64,947
101	Erie-Galesburg	63,566
377	Atchison County	60,707
287	West Franklin	58,508
320	Wamego	51,296
480	Liberal	38,890
230	Spring Hill	38,590
230	Spring Hill	38,590
230	Spring Hill	38,590

1995-2012 Election data from KASB

AVPP data from Defendant Exhibit 1064, #F3, KSDE 2011-12 1EDLA2550