

February 5, 2017

Jennifer L. Hassler

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Dear Chairman Steven Johnson and the members of the House Committee on Taxation:

I am writing in support of the Comprehensive Tax Reform (HB2237).

When we decided to buy a home in this area, we chose Kansas over Missouri. Our decision was based on the relative merits of the school systems, and we have been so pleased with our experience with the Blue Valley School district. Our son, a junior at Blue Valley North High School, has received a stellar education which will serve him well in his upcoming college experience and adult life. The adage of “you get what you pay for” absolutely applies here. I can’t imagine that the kind of education my son received is possible without adequate funding.

In addition to personal concern for my family, I am also a Special Education Para Educator at Mission Trail Elementary School, and have been there for three years. I am in a LIFT (Learning Through Intensive Functional Training) classroom. Our students are typically on the Autism spectrum. These children have high needs and any reduction in staff or funding for educational materials could have serious consequences. We are dedicated to serving these children so that they can have the best chance at becoming functional adults.

I ask that you support HB2237. Kansas needs sensible tax reform that will support a stable revenue stream for our schools, communities and infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jennifer L Hassler