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Written Testimony as Neutral before the

House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

on

HB 2354 - Resolving liability concerns regarding high school apprenticeships and on-the-job training programs.

by

Rod Spangler, Assistant Executive Director KASB Risk Management Group Director February 20, 2019

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Association of School Boards is neutral on **HB 2354**. We appreciate the effort to address the issue of insurance coverage for student participating in high school apprenticeships and on-the-job training programs. We expect the programs to be a growing part of the State Board of Education's school redesign process.

While this bill would clarify that school districts are responsible for workers comp and other insurance coverage of students in these programs, it is also possible that this coverage might increase insurance costs to a point where districts would not participate.

KASB Risk Management services has been looking at options such as a program in North Carolina where the state provides coverage for students in such programs, which may be a more cost-effective way to address this issue.

I would be happy to response to any questions and assist the committee in continuing to study this issue.

Thank you.