

Testimony to Senate Select Committee on Education Finance Chair, Sen. Molly Baumgardner Hearing: Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Position – SUPPORT SB 142

Chair Baumgardner, and Members of the Committee,

The MainStream Coalition supports passage of SB 142, in the interest of advancing the question of fully funding public education to the Senate floor. The Kansas Supreme Court has ruled additional funds are required to account for inflation, and their deadline is rapidly approaching. This bill covers the inflation increase for one year, and would give some certainty to school districts and families across the state.

It is high time to end the cycle of litigation. The Court has already ruled the policy passed last year to be Constitutional, and there is no need to revisit that, or for an ill-advised Amendment to go around the Constitutional protections given by the Court. Instead, a funding solution needs to be presented to the Court.

This bill, with a funding amount presented by the State Board of Education, is a step in that direction. We need to move it forward.

Thank you,

Brand Visher

Brandi Fisher Executive Director, the MainStream Coalition

MainStream Coalition 5960 Dearborn, #213

5960 Dearborn, #213 Mission, KS 66202-9905 (913) 649-3326 mainstreamcoalition.org

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About MainStream

Founded in 1993, the MainStream Coalition is an advocacy group for moderate political views regardless of party. Our members do more than vote.