



1420 SW Arrowhead Dr.
Topeka, KS 66604
kasb.org

**Written Proponent Testimony before the
House Education Committee**

on

HB 2361 – Enacting the career technical education credential and transition incentive for employment success act to provide additional state aid for school districts based on students obtaining a credential

by

Mark Tallman, Associate Executive Director, Kansas Association of School Boards

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Mr. Chairman, Member of the Committee:

HB 2631 would enact the Career Technical Education (CTE) Credential and Transition Incentive (CTI) for Employment Success Act. The bill would provide a new category of state aid to school districts based on students obtaining a CTE credential. We appear as proponents because this would provide a further incentive for districts in supporting students obtaining a postsecondary credential.

Increasing the number of students receiving postsecondary credentials is a key goal of the State Board's Kansans Can vision. That goal is based on research that a growing percentage of jobs will require education beyond high school; and that individuals with additional education tend to earn more and are more likely to be employed. Earning CTE certificates in high school helps prepare students for jobs, increase their income and be prepared for additional levels of postsecondary education, at a lower cost and in less time.

Since Governor Brownback proposed increased support for CTE programs several years ago, this has been an area of solid growth. We have seen a noticeable increase in the number of students receiving credentials, both CTE and academic, in high school. HB 2361 would provide additional support for such programs.

Thank you for your consideration.