

**From:** [Senia Shields](#)  
**To:** [Holly Broxterman](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2550 OPPONENT RESPONSE  
**Date:** Monday, January 31, 2022 9:29:08 AM

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HB 2550  
OPPONENT testimony  
Written Only

Chair Williams and members of the committee:

I am requesting that YOU/WE stop considering allocating public tax payer dollars to private schools. If folks want their kids to go to private schools then that is on them not the rest of the group. Our children initially went to a small private school that offered preschool to third grade education. NEVER did we think that it was the responsibility of our fellow Kansans to pay for that or shoulder that responsibility. After third grade our children entered public school as had always been planned and received a stellar education that set the foundation for excellent college readiness. We need public education to be strong and well funded as it provides the basis for our healthy community as well as being an important factor in drawing businesses to our area. Public schools are required to provide an education to everyone, whereas private schools can exclude who they want, have certain agendas that often exclude learning much needed materials and often lack accountability. I oppose this bill for many reasons, mainly because it diverts taxpayer funds from our public schools to private schools. Additionally, this is unfair to Kansas taxpayers and would create a two-tier education system that may benefit some students while hurting the majority of students.

Sincerely,

Senia Shields  
Private citizen/Clinical Social Worker  
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