



February 14, 2022

Chairwoman Williams and distinguished members of the K-12 Education Budget committee.

My name is Jenifer Javia and I represent **yes. every kid.** We work to help ensure every student has access to an individualized education. I am here to speak in support of **HB 2615 – Learn Everywhere.**

We applaud the efforts this body has taken to propel Kansas forward by empowering students and educators. Thank you for advancing public policy that gives educators and communities opportunities to give credit-bearing experiences outside of the classroom to Kansas students. Learn Everywhere will provide the opportunity for a wide variety of experiences and educational methods that has the potential to transform a student's life – allowing all students in Kansas to realize their full potential, to discover, develop and apply their innate gifts to maximize their ability to contribute to society.

Learn Everywhere does not preclude schools from creating additional educational opportunities for students. In fact, this program takes absolutely nothing away from schools. This act merely creates an avenue for students to receive credit for learning that happens outside of the traditional classroom.

Currently, six states have passed a similar program: Alabama, Indiana, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Dakota, and West Virginia. At least another 10 are working on passing this program this session.

As I mentioned, Learn Everywhere expands the educational opportunity universe without taking anything away. It sees education for what it should be: an expanding universe of opportunities that can be harnessed to tailor education around the unique needs of every child.

I appreciate the opportunity to address the committee, and most of all, I want to close by again applauding you, this body, and this state for serving as a national leader in the future of education. You have put the needs of students first and reimagined what is possible. I look forward to working with you on this and future legislation that equips all students of all ages at all stages of life with the resources and guidance they need to forge their own path of discovery and development.



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