



EQUALITY ♦ LAW ♦ JUSTICE

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**Proponent for SB 329**  
**Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance**  
**January 19, 2022**

**Chairman Longbine and members of the Committee:**

My name is Mike Burgess. I am the Director of Policy & Outreach at the Disability Rights Center of Kansas (DRC). DRC is a public interest legal advocacy organization that is part of a national network of federally mandated organizations empowered to advocate for Kansans with disabilities. DRC is officially designated by the State of Kansas as Kansas' protection and advocacy system. DRC is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, organizationally independent of state government and whose focus is the protection and enhancement of the rights of Kansans with disabilities.

I am here today to share our support for SB329.

ABLE accounts are an important tool to help individuals with disabilities and their families plan ahead to be able to cover disability related expenses.

This bill makes a number of mostly technical changes to comply with the fairly recently promulgated federal regulations and also should help remove barriers that prevent (or make it more difficult for) some Kansans from opening a Kansas ABLE Savings account.

We very much appreciate the Kansas Treasurer's Office engaging with stakeholders, including the Disability Rights Center of Kansas, very early on in the process.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for SB329. I would be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.