

Robert Gonzales, Manhattan-Ogden educator  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development  
February 5, 2012  
House Bill 2023

Hello to the committee membership I am speaking with this morning. It is with great pride that I appear here before you. I have been asked to provide testimony to the opportunities I provide for all educators here in USD #383. I am the Membership Chairmen for our local KNEA organization. I would like to share how I provide such an opportunity.

Each and every new educator to our community is provided an invitation to attend our local New Teacher luncheon. I send out invitations to business leaders and administrators in our community. I provide the educators with information and give them an opportunity to decide if this professional organization is right for them. I encourage educators to become involved and have a voice in the association. I explain the process and then I allow leadership to provide a message of being a member. Each and every new educator is free to join us at the luncheon. Or they may send the application membership to their building rep. or contact me on my cell phone. I offer several follow up Coffee Social and an Ice Cream Social. I found in my 36 years as a career educator in the State of Kansas that many folks enjoy an opportunity to be involved if treated with dignity and respect.

I thank you for the time to be here this morning. I am available for questions or concerns.