

Proponent SB 387-In Person
Senate Education Committee
January 29th 2024
Jon Lueth
Deputy State Director AFP-KS



Thank you for the chance to testify today Proponent on SB 387, a bill that would alter the current open enrollment statutes to ensure students currently enrolled in this program are not disrupted in their educational journey. I am here on behalf of thousands of activists from across our state who believe that no two students are alike and there should be many avenues available to get an education that meets their child's unique needs. We applaud and thank the legislature for their hard work expanding open enrollment in the state and putting families and students first.

HB 2567 moved Kansas from one of the states with the worst open enrollment laws to a state with some of the best open enrollment laws in the country. In December 2023, [NPR penned](#) that HB 2567 "echoes laws in more than two dozen other states where public school transfers are seen as a hallmark of school choice."

The law passed in 2022 is clear and simple – districts will have to declare the number of open seats at each grade level and publish the number of open seats on their website.

SB 387 further simplifies the process for students and families by permitting nonresident students who open enroll during the 2023-2024 school year to continue their enrollment and attendance in the school they selected until they graduate from high school, unless they are deemed to no longer be in good standing. Creating a more steady process for those students benefiting from this open enrollment program strengthens a students opportunity to succeed in the educational environment best meeting their unique needs.

It is our goal to ensure that this policy remain preserved in fashion that keeps the burden and barriers between Kansas families and an education that best meets their children's needs and we believe this bill progresses that goal. We ask you to support SB 387.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Lueth

Deputy State Director

Americans For Prosperity-KS