



House Education Budget Committee
Rep. Cassidy, Chair

H.B. 2391 – extension of ancillary weighting

*Presented by Diane Gjerstad
Wichita Public Schools
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Chairman Cassidy and members of the Committee:

We rise with several concerns about the policy the committee is considering with H.B. 2391, a bill which would extend the years and greatly increase the amount of funding a few districts would be able to raise through local property taxes. Ancillary weighting allows a local tax levy few districts can access.

H.B. 2391 would expand ancillary from three to nine years. Using the illustration of a \$15m ancillary budget approved. In this illustration a district authorized for a \$15m ancillary weighting under current law is compared to the additional revenue which would be available under this bill.

Why should we care? This bill would add to the disparity in resources. A few districts would have access to resources to provide programs and services for their students while others would not. We compete for talent – the best teachers, the best principals. We already have a wage differential making it difficult to recruit new teachers or teachers from the hard to fill disciplines such as physics.

| Current law | H.B. 2391 | Net Increase |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 100% = \$15.0 | 100% = \$15.0 | |
| 100% = \$15.0 | 100% = \$15.0 | |
| 75% = \$11.25 | 90% = \$13.5 | + \$2.25 |
| 50% = \$ 7.5 | 80% = \$12.0 | + \$4.5 |
| 25% = \$ 3.75 | 70% = \$10.5 | + \$6.75 |
| | 60% = \$9.0 | + \$9.0 |
| | 50% = \$7.5 | + \$7.5 |
| | 40% = \$6.0 | + \$6.0 |
| | 30% = \$4.5 | + \$4.5 |
| | 20% = \$3.0 | + \$3.0 |
| | 10% = \$1.5 | + \$1.5 |

In recent years the legislature has chronically underfunded local option budget equalization. The three judge panel in the *Gannon* decision found the formula unconstitutional in part because the state is not funding LOB and capital outlay state aid. Allowing a few districts additional access to local taxing authority to expand and provide educational opportunities based solely on the district's ability to pay would appear to be in conflict with the decision.

Expanding local taxing authority should be done only when both the local option budget and capital outlay equalization formulas are fully funded.

Thank you for your consideration.

House Education Budget Committee
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