



Oral Testimony as Opponent before the

House Education Committee

on

HB 2183 Requiring a computer science course for high school graduation.

by

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Kansas Association of School Boards

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Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Association of School Boards opposes **HB 2183** because we feel it unnecessarily oversteps the into the responsibilities and duties of both the State Board of Education as well as local boards of education.

In the KASB Adopted Resolutions and Policies, as approved by our delegate assembly in December of 2018 we find the following observations: Page 8 Section on Governing Schools Section on State Board of Education, sub-section 3 reads as follows:

3. Powers and Duties KASB believes the constitutional responsibility of the state board for general supervision of public schools includes: school accreditation, state standards and assessments, professional licensure and enforcement of professional standards.

Following in Section B. Local Boards of Education sub-section 2 on Curriculum Authority our policy states:

2. Curriculum Authority A district's curriculum should be established by the local board of education, not by state statute, as long as the district meets state accreditation requirements. KASB opposes efforts to directly or indirectly limit the board's ability to determine curriculum, library and other instructional materials.

We would point out, the Kansas Department of Education and the State Board of Education are currently in the process of reviewing the Computer Science Model Standards and are available for review and comment until March 8th, 2019. You can find the information on the KSDE Website at

<https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Career-Standards-and-Assessment-Services/Content-Area-A-E/Computer-Science>

KASB's opposition to this bill should not be construed to be in opposition to the importance of learning and expanding students' understanding and knowledge of computer science and issues that they will need for lifetime success, but should be seen as a belief that the decision for establishing requirements and curriculum for; are constitutionally assigned and prescribed to the elected officials of the State Board of Education and Local Boards of Education and this issue should be referred to them for study and action.

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