



Kansas Families for Education Foundation

Demanding Excellent Public Schools

Talking points on HB 2739 Tell you Legislator to Vote NO

- ❖ It cuts all districts by \$131 per student, totaling \$85 million! This will lead to further reductions in staff and services to students at a time when educational standards and expectations continue to increase. Class sizes will increase.
- ❖ It cuts a further \$85.9 million from local option budget state aid, which will impact some districts far more severely than others, based solely on the property wealth of the districts. Districts will either have to cut their budgets MORE than the \$131, or raise local property taxes.
- ❖ Although House leaders say taxes should not be increased, this bill would result in an \$85.9 million property tax increase if districts seek to replace lost state LOB aid, with local increases varying from under one mill to nearly 50 districts with double-digit mill levy increases.
- ❖ Although school districts have been criticized for not directing more dollars to the classroom, the bill creates a new fund to allow districts to spend more on local activities and sports, while cutting the general fund that supports instruction.
- ❖ The bill authorizes two new property tax-based funds, the Local Activities Budget and the Equity Budget, neither of which receives state equalization aid. The result will likely be both higher property taxes in certain districts and further disparity in mill levies for districts seeking to use them.
- ❖ The bill eliminates high enrollment weighting and reduces other school finance weightings.
- ❖ HB 2739 will require all districts have at least a 10 percent local option budget as a “local foundation budget,” in addition to the 20-mill statewide levy and general state aid. The result will be different mill levies to fund the “foundation” requirement of the state.