

Testimony on **HB 2090**
before the
House Education Committee
by

Jim Edwards, Governmental Relations Specialist
Kansas Association of School Boards

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Chairman Aurand and Members of the House Education Committee:

KASB supports the goal of increasing student health, in part because it impacts other student academic issues. However, **HB 2090** as written raises several concerns:

Sec. 1(a) states a goal of promoting healthier school environment and children, including an “appropriate amount of physical education,” (b) directs the State Board to collaborate with KDHE to develop curriculum, materials and guidelines to reach that goal, and (d) requires the Board and KDHE to develop standards and objectives for physical education programs for all grade levels that each district should meet.

KASB supports state goals and allowing local districts to determine how to meet those goals. We believe the bill should also require assessment of the financial impact of proposed standards, objectives and guidelines, such as the impact on and availability of staff, and the impact of more physical education requirements on other academic requirements. If the school day and year remain the same and we do more PE, what should we do less of? How will the state ensure that “suitable funding” is provided for this additional outcome?

Sec. 1(c) requires a physical fitness test for every student in grades 4, 7, 9, and 12. Who must conduct the test? If the school does, who is responsible? Many schools do not have nurses. If other health providers, who pays and how is this enforced?

Finally, note that health services are NOT included in the definition of the “65% to the classroom” policy goal. Which goal is now supposed to be the most important?

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these thoughts and I would stand for questions.