

Testimony before the
Senate Committee on Education

on
SB 532 – Non-Proficient Weighting Increase

by

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Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments today on **SB 532**, which would increase the non-proficient weighting factor from 0.0465 to 0.456. For a number of years, KASB has supported the use of a poverty-based measure, such as the current use of free lunch eligibility, as the main component in funding for at-risk student programs, but also supported the use of additional factors. We therefore supported the creation of the non-proficient weighting in 2006 and its extension last session.

Although KASB has not adopted a position regarding the specific level of non-proficient weighting, the School Finance Resolution for 2008, developed by our Legislative Committee and adopted by our Delegate Assembly, supports an increase in both poverty- and non-poverty-based criteria for at-risk funding. Therefore, we support the concept of **SB 532**. Frankly, we believe increases in at-risk funding have been, and will continue to be good for students, good for educational attainment and therefore good for Kansas.

Thank you for your consideration.