MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

REGARDING VETO OF HOUSE BILL 2304

Kansas law makes it clear that it is the role of local school boards and the State Board of Education to establish curriculum and educational standards for our students.

This bill is yet again an act of legislative overreach, an attempt to override our locally elected leaders and insert partisan politics into our children’s education.

Therefore, under Article 2, Section 14(a) of the Constitution, I hereby veto House Bill 2304.

THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE BY THE GOVERNOR

DATED April 14, 2023
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of promoting the safety and protection of students and emphasizing how students should respond when encountering a firearm, the board of education of a school district may provide firearm safety education programs. The state board of education shall establish curriculum guidelines for a standardized firearm safety education program. Such guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, accident prevention and, for students enrolled in:

1. Kindergarten and grades one through five, shall be based on the Eddie Eagle Gun Safe program offered by the National Rifle Association or any successor program;
2. Grades six through eight, shall be based on the Eddie Eagle Gun Safe program offered by the National Rifle Association or any successor program or the Hunter Education in Our Schools program offered by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks or any successor program; and
3. Grades nine through 12, shall be based on the Hunter Education in Our Schools program offered by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks or any successor program.

(b) If a board of education elects to provide firearm safety education, such instruction shall be in accordance with the guidelines established by the state board of education and shall be offered to ensure that all students are provided the opportunity to take the course.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above Bill originated in the House, and passed that body

__________________________________________
Speaker of the House.

__________________________________________
Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the Senate

__________________________________________
President of the Senate.

__________________________________________
Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED

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Governor.