

House K-12 Budget Committee

Verbal Testimony in Support of HB 2068: Amending the tax credit for low income student scholarship program act to expand student eligibility.

Parent of 3 students: Wilfredo Sanchez, Kansas City, KS

Thank you, Representatives. I am Wilfredo Sanchez, I live in Kansas City, Kansas and have three children. We wanted our three boys to attend Christ the King parish school in Kansas City, Kansas because we liked the school and thought it would help our boys do well with their studies. Our cousins went to Christ the King school and they were getting a good education there and were happy.

We never thought we could afford tuition for an education at this school. Our children qualify for free lunch at school. We talked to the principal, Mrs. Fithian, and she told us about the Kansas tax credit scholarships for students on free lunch that could help our children attend the school that we thought would be better for them. Then we learned that only one of our children could get the tax credit scholarship because he was in kindergarten. We were so sad to learn that our twin boys going into 7th grade could not get this scholarship because the school they went to last year was not on a list. They did not go to the right school on a list from last year. We didn't understand why there is a list of those schools. The middle school they came from was not on the list, so the scholarship could not help us.

We hope that the scholarship can be changed so that families with children in school can get these scholarships for all of their children, no matter where they went to school last year. Please change the law so that all children that need help can qualify for tax credit scholarships. Thank you sincerely.

Wilfredo Sanchez