

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-3113
adam.thomas@house.ks.gov



16272 S. SUNSET ST.
OLATHE, KANSAS 66062

ADAM THOMAS
26TH DISTRICT

Madame Chair and Honorable Members of the House K-12 Budget Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to speak on behalf of HB 2411.

As we come out COVID-19 there is a need that now presents itself to us. This need has to do with how negotiations happen between school boards and unions.

According to Kansas Statute the union with the majority of support has the ability to basically monopolize negotiations as representatives of the public employees. The chance for all voices to be heard is negated by the size of 1 union forcing teachers to make a choice to join and accept the positions taken by the representative or simply be on their own.

What HB 2411 does is allow any group that can show membership the chance to be at the negotiating table creating competition among groups that do not simply comply with what the union says is in their best interest. When more than one group requests to be the negotiating party it then becomes the responsibility of the school board to decide who they negotiate with.

If teachers or parents are not happy with the representation they have the ability to make changes by electing new school board members and make sure their voices are heard.

It is important now more than ever we focus on local elections and who is best fit to serve as our local representatives and HB 2411 does just that. Now is the time to put the power back in the hands of the people and let all teachers and school board members have a voice and a spot at the table.

Thank you for your time and I ask you to support HB 2411.

Sincerely,

Adam Thomas
Kansas State Representative
District 26