

## **Sebelius signs bill easing transcript issues for students in military families**

### Staff Reports

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Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has signed a bill sponsored by Rep. Sydney Carlin to ease the impact frequent moves have on the children of those serving in the military.

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children will ease the transition between schools for military children by "seamlessly" transferring records from one school system to another. Records would include qualification and eligibility for enrollment, student participation in extracurricular activities, scheduling, grading and assessments.

The bill applies to children of active members of the military, including those retired for a period of up to one year. Late last year, Carlin attended a Department of Defense-sponsored conference focusing on quality of life in the military.

"As students are moved from post to post, they face many disruptions in their academic lives," Carlin said. Carlin said the conference featured testimony from three military families about the difficulties these moves create for military children. She also noted that the Manhattan and Junction City school districts were already working to implement some of the policies contained in the legislation.

"I am also quite pleased that Kansas is the first state to have this compact signed into law by our governor," Carlin said. "This assures us that we will have a voting member on the compact for any future changes." There are 18 other states that are in various stages of passing this legislation.

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