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**KANSAS GETS DISMAL MARKS
FOR TEACHER POLICIES IN NEW REPORT--
LABELED as “UNSATISFACTORY”**

–Today the National Council on Teacher Quality released a 50-state encyclopedia analyzing states’ teacher policies, concluding that complicated and archaic policies, including those in Kansas, are counterproductive to the nation’s teacher quality goals–

Washington, DC -- The *State Teacher Policy Yearbook* is the first project of its kind to provide a 360-degree detailed analysis of *any and every* policy that states have impacting the quality of teachers, specifically their recruitment, preparation, licensing, evaluation and compensation.

While Kansas ranks in the middle in a comparison to other states, the state’s highest grade was a single C. The state earned solid Ds in the five remaining areas.

“Kansas’s policies, like all states’, are in need of a massive overhaul,” said Kate Walsh, president of NCTQ. “It’s time to turn in the gas-guzzling clunker in exchange for the hybrid.”

The state has lax teacher evaluation policies. Unlike other professions, annual evaluations are not required of teachers in Kansas. Moreover, the state does not set minimal consequences for teachers who repeatedly receive negative evaluations.

Despite the bleak overall findings, there was some good news. Kansas has taken some steps ensure that high school teachers know the subjects they teach.

To download copies of the Kansas report, which includes national comparisons, or to purchase printed copies of the report, visit the NCTQ website, www.nctq.org. For questions about the report, please contact Lisa Cohen at (310) 395-2544 or lisa@lisacohen.org or Molly Jackman at (202) 393-0020 (ext. 15) or mjackman@nctq.org.

NCTQ -- comprised of reform-minded Democrats, Republicans, and Independents -- advocates for reforms in a broad range of teacher policies and seeks to lend transparency and accountability to the three institutions that have the greatest impact on teacher quality: state governments, colleges of education, and teachers’ unions.

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