



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION March 17, 2016

SB 388

Blake Flanders, Ph.D. President and CEO Kansas Board of Regents

Good afternoon Chairman Highland and Members of the Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to provide neutral testimony concerning SB 388.

I am in strong agreement regarding the importance of our higher education system acknowledging credit for prior learning as we look to increase the flexibility and ease with which a student can successfully complete the degree program of their choice, while still upholding the quality and vigor that is expected from our public universities and colleges.

The Kansas Board of Regents currently has policy regarding College Level Examination Program (CLEP) credit earned and the transferability of that credit to all other state universities. Additionally, at the Regents' annual retreat this past Fall, the Board included among its 2015-2016 academic year goals, to further the implementation of credit for prior learning in Kansas with an emphasis on serving active and veteran service members and their families.

Last month, in continuation of this effort, both the System Council of Chief Academic Officers and the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee discussed a revision of the current Board policy on credit for prior learning, following an extensive review of the issue. On March 23, in conjunction with the next meeting of the Board, the process will continue with the System Council of Chief Academic Officers confirming what process shall be put in place to determine credit-granting scores for the system.

I offered three amendments when this bill was before the Senate Committee on Education. All three were adopted, and are included in the revised version now under consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on this bill.