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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Highland and the House Committee on Education
From: Tamera Lawrence, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 17, 2016
Subject: SB 388—Awarding of Credit Hours for CLEP test results

Senate Bill 388 would establish requirements for the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and Regents' institution regarding credit hours awarded to students who have successfully passed a college level examination program (CLEP).

CLEP is a series of exams provided by the College Board to assist students in postsecondary education. The College Board is a private nonprofit organization that was originally created to expand access to higher education. Typically, a student registers and pays for a CLEP exam. The student takes the exam at a prescribed date and time. The results of the exam are then reported by the College Board to the colleges and universities indicated by the student at the time of registration.

Currently, the Regents' institutions set the number of credit hours the institution awards a student for successful completion of a CLEP exam. SB 388 would require KBOR to adopt a policy prior to July 1, 2017, requiring Regents' institutions to award a certain amount of credit hours to any student who successfully passed a CLEP exam and received a credit-granting recommended score as outlined by the American council on education. The policy adopted by KBOR would be required to include the following:

- (1) Credit hours awarded shall be at least equivalent to the minimum number of credit hours granted for the equivalent course offered;
- (2) There is no limit on the number of credit hours a student can be awarded for CLEP results beyond the limitations placed on such institution by such institution's regional accrediting agency;
- (3) Credit hours shall be applied to the student's degree program or general degree requirements depending on the type of exam;

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- (4) Credit hours shall be listed on the student's transcript as pass/fail;
- (5) Credit hours awarded for CLEP tests shall transfer with the student and be applied to the student's degree at a subsequent Regents' institution; and
- (6) Any other provisions deemed necessary by KBOR.

Starting July 1, 2017, all Regents' institutions would be required to follow the uniform policy adopted by the KBOR.

The bill would become effective on July 1, 2016.