

To: House of Representatives Vision 2020 Committee

From: Eric Burks, Kansas Association of Technical Colleges

Date: February 10, 2016

Re: House Bill 2568

Chairman Campbell and members of the committee:

Thank you for considering the comments of the Kansas Association of Technical Colleges (KATC) regarding House Bill 2568. KATC supports the taxing authority for community colleges contemplated by this measure for satellite campuses.

As you are aware the Technical Colleges in Kansas do not have any taxing authority for any purpose at this time. We are appreciative of your introduction and the upcoming discussion regarding House Bill 2570 which would in fact grant the Technical Colleges taxing authority “for the purpose of construction, reconstruction, repair, remodeling, additions to, furnishing and equipping of college buildings, architectural expenses incidental thereto, and the acquisition of real property for use as building sites or for educational programs” in a similar fashion to the House Bill 2568.

Our remarks regarding House Bill 2568 are simply to remind the committee that should the provisions of House Bill 2570 advance, it limits the taxing authority for Technical Colleges to their home county, when satellite campuses for Technical Colleges should also be included in a fashion similar to House Bill 2568. By way of example I would use my own institution, North-Central technical College whose home county is Mitchell County, and yet we have a satellite campus located in Ellis County.

Thank you again for your consideration of these important measures for the continued success of technical education and workforce preparedness in Kansas.