



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
April 29, 2015

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2395

Good morning Chairman Masterson and Members of the Committee. I am Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration at the Kansas Board of Regents, and I am here today to speak on behalf of the Board of Regents in support of House Bill 2395.

In its current form, the bill contains one proposed amendment to current law. The bill increases the limits for contracting for services by architects and engineers without convening a negotiating committee. With this amendment, the current limits of \$750,000 for architects and \$500,000 for engineers would each be increased to \$1,000,000. Projects under those amounts could be performed by licensed agency professionals, Department of Administration professionals or by on-call architects/engineers who have been retained for defined terms after having gone through an established competitive procurement process.

The existing limits have been in place since 2006, and the proposed limits are reasonable, based on current project costs and the capabilities of the universities, the Department of Administration, or on-call professionals.

This amendment would reduce the time expended advertising, reviewing qualifications, short-listing, interviewing and selecting design professionals. It would also reduce the time and money spent by architectural and engineering firms generating materials, traveling and preparing for interviews.

We urge you to support HB 2395.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before your Committee today.