

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Carl Krehbiel at 3:30 p.m. on February 19, 2001 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Chairperson Benlon (E)

Committee staff present: Carol Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Avis Swartzman, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Dee Woodson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Ron Gaches, Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association  
Jeri Freed, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Board  
Kevin Robertson, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Association  
Joyce Volmut, Executive Director, Kansas Association of the Medically Underserved (written only)  
Representative Jim Garner  
Craig Grant, Kansas NEA  
Dr. Kim Wilcox, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Regents (written only)  
Steve Kearney, Kansas Association of Technical Schools and Colleges  
Jim Edwards, Sr. Vice President, Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Others attending: See attached sheet.

**HB 2312 - Dental hygienists student loan act**

Vice Chairman Krehbiel opened the hearings on **HB 2312** in place of the Chair who was testifying before another committee at the same time. Ron Gaches, Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association, was the first conferee, speaking in support of the bill. He testified that passage of this bill would encourage new graduates of Kansas Dental Hygiene Programs to practice in areas that are currently underserved through the establishment of a dental hygiene student loan act.

Mr. Gaches stated that it is difficult to get healthcare workers to practice or live in rural Kansas. He said that the maldistribution of numbers of Registered Dental Hygienists in the rural areas has been a continual problem over the years, but believed that with the enactment of this bill the disparity could be lessened. He testified that **HB 2312** was based on the same principle as the Kansas Medical Student Loan Act, and it would create incentive for dental hygiene graduates to practice in a service commitment area of his or her choice upon graduation and licensure. Mr. Gaches told the Committee that if the students should fail to receive a license or fail to practice in the service commitment area, they would be required to repay the loan at an annual interest rate of 15%. (Attachment 1)

Jeri Freed, Executive Director of the Kansas Dental Board, testified as the second conferee in support of the dental hygienists student loan act. She said that dental workforce data collected during the license renewal process indicated that nearly one-third of the counties in Kansas did not have a practicing dental hygienist. (Attachment 2)

Kevin Robertson, Executive Director of the Kansas Dental Association, testified in support of **HB 2312**. He stated that Kansas has averaged a little better than a 4% per year increase in the number of dental hygienists licensed and practicing in the state in each of the last three years. He said that KDA believes that the loan repayment incentive contained within the proposed legislation would help to entice dental hygienists into rural areas. (Attachment 3)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Room 231-N of the Capitol  
at 3:30 p.m. on February 19, 2001.

Written testimony was submitted by Joyce Volmut, Executive Director of the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved. ([Attachment 4](#))

Committee discussion and questions followed relating to: problems with admissions for Kansas residents to UMKC Dental School, Kansas not having a dental school and explanation of the reciprocity agreement with UMKC, the need also for dental students to work in the rural areas, other opportunities with bordering states' dental schools, possibility of enlarging UMKC school, 36 counties not having a dental hygienist and 6-8 counties without a dentist, how long the students have to work in the underserved areas in order to pay off the loans, proposed bill modeled off of the medical student program, number of dental hygienists in the state, explanation of difference between dental hygienists and dental assistants, and the four counties that are excluded in this bill.

There were no opponents appearing before the Committee to testify, and the Vice Chairman closed the hearings on **HB 2312**.

**HB 2437 - Kansas education students forgivable loan program**

Vice Chairman Krehbiel opened the hearings on **HB 2437**. Representative Jim Garner was the first conferee to testify in support of **HB 2437**. He told the Committee that this bill would create a Kansas Education Students Forgivable Loan Program, and that it was modeled after a very successful program in Georgia. He said that the sponsors of the bill wanted to raise awareness of a very real problem of the looming teacher shortage within the state. He gave the numbers of 530 teacher vacancies in Kansas this year as compared to 196 for the previous year.

Representative Garner testified that this bill would provide loans for education students to pay tuition, fees and other college related costs, and would be \$1500 for each semester of a student's junior and senior years of study. He said the students would be required to teach in a Kansas public school for one year for each semester that the student receives loan assistance, and for each year of teaching, one semester of loan debt would be forgiven. He added that the Kansas State Board of Regents would have the authority to set policies to implement this program. Representative Garner stated that there were state funds available to support the forgivable loan program, and he was proposing to also use some of the lottery funds budgeted for advertising to support this program to recruit new teachers. He concluded by urging the Committee to support the passage of **HB 2437** as it encourages responsibility by expecting something in return for the opportunity provided. ([Attachment 5](#))

General discussion and questions followed regarding: the repayment aspect of the loan program, the funding mechanism, clarification of the bill's goal was to have Kansas educated teachers teaching in Kansas programs, the number graduating in education has dropped in half over the last 20 years from 3300 down to 1500, explanation of the Georgia law this proposed legislation was modeled after, and the fact that Kansas loses 25-30% of graduating teachers in the first five years.

Craig Grant, Kansas NEA, was the second conferee who spoke in favor of **HB 2437**. He testified that there is a definite critical shortage of teachers in Kansas, and KNEA feels that this bill should be part of an over-all strategy to attract and retain quality teachers in Kansas schools. He said they would like to suggest a change to this proposed legislation that does not change the intent of it, and possibly help solve some of the critical shortages in certain disciplines and geographic areas of the state. Mr. Grant suggested that if an eligible student took advantage of the loan program and chose to teach in an area designated as a "high-need" area, that the loan be forgiven twice as quickly as a regular basis loan. He said that they thought the State Department of Education should determine the shortage areas that would qualify under this provision. ([Attachment 6](#))

Dr. Kim Wilcox, Executive Director of the Kansas Board of Regents, submitted written testimony which he said included general remarks about a number of bills being introduced during this legislative session. He said in summary it means too many programs and not enough dollars. ([Attachment 7](#))



CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Room 231-N of the Capitol at 3:30 p.m. on February 19, 2001.

Representative Storm asked for clarification on the "twice as quickly" the loan would be paid off. Mr. Grant explained how the loan would be forgiven for half the service time if the student taught in one of the "high-need" areas of the state.

There being no opponents present to testify on this bill, the Vice Chairman closed the hearings on **HB 2437**.

**HB 2349 - Legislative Educational Planning Committee, study of vocational and technical education system**

Vice Chairman Krehbiel opened the hearings on **HB 2349**. The first conferee was Steve Kearney, who represented the Kansas Association of Technical Schools and Colleges, and spoke in favor of **HB 2349**. Mr. Kearney presented a balloon version of the bill that provided for the establishment of the Vocational and Technical Workforce Advisory Council to advise the Governor, Legislature, Board of Education and the Board of Regents. He said this proposal also included the makeup of the Council which was to be made up of people who avail themselves of the training and education for the workforce, those that actually use it in business and industry, and also those people within the community college system and the KATSC system that deliver it. (Attachment 8)

Mr. Kearney also distributed to the Committee members a copy of some testimony from Dr. Patrick McAtee, who was a member of the Governor's Task Force on Workforce Development, and concerned this subject. (Attachment 9)

Mr. Kearney testified that he left most of the Revisor's language in tact in terms of what they need to look at over time and initially in the delivery of this proposal. He pointed out in this balloon that with the exception that this Council was directed to, between this session and next session during this interim, conduct a study of the state system for the delivery of vocational and technical education, and how it effects the Kansas workforce. He said that the life of this advisory committee was not addressed in this balloon.

The second conferee to speak in favor of this bill was Jim Edwards, Sr. Vice President of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI). He shared with the Committee that KCCI's business members are telling them, day in and day out, that this was the number one issue as far as workforce development and vocational training. (Attachment 10)

Dr. Kim Wilcox, Executive Director of the Kansas Board of Regents, asked to make a comment. He said he had noticed in the proposed balloon that the Board of Regents was not represented on the Council, and also that the Council is directed to report back to the Legislature and not the Board. He further stated that the Board has worked hard to become a clearing house for legislation regarding postsecondary education, both in terms of creation of activities, but also report back. He requested the Committee give some consideration to these points of concern.

Representative Kuether commented that she serves on a committee as the ranking minority member, and that there is a comprehensive workforce development bill being drafted that will address many of the needs and issues of workforce development concerns.

Vice Chairman Krehbiel closed the hearings on **HB 2349**.

**HB 2189 - Public safety officers, educational benefits for dependents**

The Vice Chair directed the Committee's attention to **HB 2189** for discussion and possible final action.

Representative Sloan submitted an amendment to **HB 2189**, and he explained what changes he was making to the bill by this amendment. The Revisor, Avis Swartzman, further clarified the proposed amendment. (Attachment 11)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Room 231-N of the Capitol at 3:30 p.m. on February 19, 2001.

Representative Sloan made a motion to adopt this amendment, and Representative Horst seconded the motion.

Questions and discussion continued by Committee members with clarification on the various types of EMT's including volunteers like the ones trained by the volunteer fire departments, the municipal like the

City of Lawrence employees, and employees working for a private company under contract for services. Representative Sloan explained what his proposed amendment does is give some protection to a category of risk takers who provide care and invaluable services to citizens in dangerous situations. He further stated that these people working in emergency medical service are making sacrifices for the public good, and the children of those deceased officers should have a tuition free education, and the numbers of these are very few. Representative Tafanelli said these people are the ones that operate in a public safety sector, and they are put at an increased risk every time they go out on an emergency call.

Representative Storm asked for clarity purposes, if it was immaterial most EMT's are not public, but private employees. Representative Sloan replied that most EMT's are public employees. Representative Storm asked if most ambulance services are publically funded, and Representative Sloan said that in most communities they are publically funded. Mr. David Lake, State Director of the Kansas State Emergency Medical Service, was in attendance, and he told the Committee that there were 183 licensed ambulance services in the State of Kansas, and of that number 26 are private and some of those are supported by municipal funds to operate. Representative Storm stated that in this bill, they would not need to make a distinction between the two groups as they are both working for the public interest.

Representative Sloan made his closing comments on his amendment. The Vice Chair called for a vote on Representative Sloan's amendment, and motion carried.

Representative Kuether made a motion to pass **HB 2189** out favorably as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Tanner, and the motion carried.

**HB 2013 - State scholarship program, amount of award**

The Vice Chairman called for Committee discussion and possible final action on **HB 2013**. He gave a short synopsis of the bill, and said the amount of the award for the scholarships was \$1,000 and had been the same since 1985. He stated that the Regents had requested that the amount be raised to \$1,850, and does not affect the funding but simply to offer the scholarship at a higher amount. The Revisor said that it would be subject to Appropriations, and explained the wording in the bill. Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department, explained that it takes out specific references to a student's dollar amount for financial resources and ties it to a federal methodology.

Representative Reardon made a motion to pass **HB 2013** out favorably, and it was seconded by Representative Kuether. Motion carried.

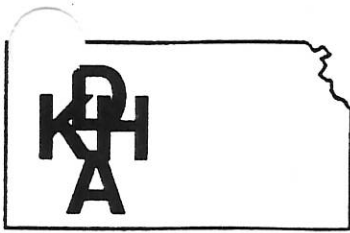
The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting of the House Higher Education Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 231-N of the Capitol.



# HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE Feb. 19, 2001

NAME	REPRESENTING
<i>Nancy Stangor</i>	<i>Fedex</i>
<i>Russell B. Smith</i>	<i>City of Burton / HCCESA</i>
<i>Craig Trout</i>	<i>ITNEA</i>
<i>Jim Edwards</i>	<i>KCCJ</i>
<i>Kevin Robertson</i>	<i>DA</i>
<i>Steve Haught</i>	<i>K. Dent Bd</i>
<i>Jeni Freed</i>	<i>KS Dental Bd.</i>
<i>Mike Ohrt</i>	<i>Pinegar - Smith</i>
<i>DAVID LAKE</i>	<i>BEMS</i>
<i>Amber Heiserman</i>	<i>KU student (Education)</i>
<i>Kelly Lawson</i>	<i>KU Ed Student</i>
<i>Ron Goches</i>	<i>KDHA</i>
<i>Tim Glassco</i>	<i>KU Student (Law)</i>
<i>DICK CARP</i>	<i>KBOU</i>



# THE KANSAS DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUENT OF THE AMERICAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION

2007 SW REGENCY PARKWAY • TOPEKA, KS 66604

Ph. 785/273-3551 • Fax: 785/273-3551

## Testimony of Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association

Submitted by Ron Gaches

Gaches, Braden, Barbee & Associates

In support of HB 2312 – The Dental Hygienist Student Loan Act

Before the House Higher Education Committee

Monday, February 19, 2001

Good afternoon. My name is Ron Gaches and I am here on behalf of the Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association to request your support of HB 2312. Passage of this bill will encourage new graduates of Kansas Dental Hygiene Programs to practice in areas that are currently underserved through the establishment of a dental hygiene student loan act.

The problems with location of professionals in Dental Hygiene and Dentistry are no different than any other medical field when you look at underserved areas throughout the state of Kansas. It is difficult to get healthcare workers to practice or live in rural Kansas. The maldistribution of numbers of Registered Dental Hygienists in the rural areas has been a continual problem over the years. KDHA believes that through the enactment of this bill, the disparity can be lessened. Dentistry has seen decreasing numbers of Dentists in rural areas as well and is currently addressing this same issue in regard to dental students.

This bill is based on the same principle as the Kansas Medical Student Loan Act. The Act would create an incentive for dental hygiene graduates to practice in a service commitment area of his or her choice upon graduation and licensure. The student will receive a loan, covering tuition, before each semester, which will not have to be repaid if the student receives a license and then goes to serve in the service commitment area. The ultimate goal of this act would be that once the service commitment has been met, the Registered Dental Hygienist would continue to practice in the area. Should the student fail to receive a license or fail to practice in the service commitment area, they will be required to repay the loan at an annual interest rate of 15%.

The Loan Program is one of the recommendations of the Dental Hygiene Training Committee which was created by the Legislature in 1998 and reported back to the Legislature during the 1999 Session. The previous bill was well received both in the House Health and Human Services Committee and the House as a whole. Unfortunately, it got held up in the Senate.

We continue to believe that the passage of this bill would be a positive step towards creating greater access to dental hygiene services in underserved areas across Kansas. I thank you for your time and for allowing me to come before your committee today. I will be happy to stand for any questions the committee may have.

House Higher Education

2-19-01

Attachment 1

**Teresa C. Higgins RDH, B.S**

*President*

2007 SW Regency Parkway

Topeka, KS 66604

785-273-3551

terrie51@swbell.net

**Denise A. Maus RDH, B.S**

*Legislative Chair*

1334 N. Coach House

Wichita, KS 67235

316-721-4780

bpdgmaus@aol.com



**BILL GRAVES**  
GOVERNOR

BUSINESS OFFICE  
3601 SW 29TH STREET, STE. 134  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66614-2082  
TELEPHONE NO (785) 273-0780  
FAX (785) 273-7545  
E-Mail dental@ink.org

**KANSAS DENTAL BOARD**

**Legislative Testimony – House Bill 2312**

Jerri A. Freed, Executive Director

February 19, 2001

The Kansas Dental Board supports the dental hygienists student loan act. Dental workforce data collected during the license renewal process indicate that nearly one-third of the counties in our state do not have a practicing dental hygienist. Under the provisions of House Bill 2312, student loan recipients will be required to practice dental hygiene in a “service commitment area”. The Board supports this effort to place licensed dental hygienists in areas of need.

House Higher Education  
2-19-01  
Attachment 2





Date: February 19, 2001

To: House Committee on Higher Education

From: Kevin J. Robertson, CAE  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KJ Robertson', is written over the printed name and title.

RE: **HB 2312, dental hygienist student loan act**

Representative Benlon and members of the Committee, I am Kevin Robertson Executive Director of the Kansas Dental Association, which consists of approximately 1,000 members, or 80% of Kansas' practicing dentists.

I am here today to testify in **support of HB 2312.**

According to the Kansas Dental Board the state of Kansas has averaged a little better than a 4%/year increase in the number of dental hygienists licensed and practicing in Kansas in each of the past three years. Though this number is encouraging, with approximately 85% of the Kansas dental hygiene students enrolled at the UMKC School of Dentistry, Johnson County Community College, or Wichita State University, only 11% of the increase in dental hygienists are practicing in the most rural "Big First" Congressional District.

The KDA believes there is a shortage of dental hygienists in Kansas, however, we also agree that the problem is compounded by a maldistribution that favors the urban areas. The KDA is hopeful that the establishment of a dental hygiene program in 1998 at Colby Community College will result in more dental hygienists practicing west of Highway 81. In addition, the KDA has sought and is continuing to seek the placement of a new school of dental hygiene located outside Kansas most populous areas. We believe that the loan repayment incentive contained in HB 2312 will help to entice dental hygienists into rural areas.

Let me conclude by urging the Committee to recommend HB 2312 favorably. If you have any questions I will be happy to answer them at this time.

House Higher Education  
2-19-01  
Attachment 3

5200 Huntoon  
Topeka, Kansas 66604-2398  
Phone: 785-272-7360  
Fax: 785-272-2301

Written Testimony  
HB 2312

**From:** Joyce Volmut <jvolmut@swbell.net>  
**To:** <benlon@house.state.ks.us>  
**Date:** Mon, Feb 19, 2001 4:14 PM  
**Subject:** H.B. 2312

Representative Lisa Benlon and members of the House Higher Education Committee

I am writing in support of HB 2312. I am sorry I could not be present to provide this testimony.

The Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved identifies access to dental care as one of the greatest concerns of the clients we serve. We are a private, non profit association representing over 30 clinics in the state who serve as medical home for underserved populations in the state. For the past year KAMU has been working with KDHE in surveying health professional shortage areas in the state. This year 12 communities were approved as dental health professional shortage areas, 7 more applications are pending and several more are in process. This means that in these areas the ratio of dentist to population is greater than 1:5000. The norm is 1:1200.

We believe that HB 2312 is one method of alleviating the problem, especially for the vulnerable populations we serve. For the past few years we have worked with loan repayment and scholarship placement of graduates through the National Health Service Corps, a federal program that matches local graduates with health professional shortage areas in the state and feel it has been very successful. Currently we have about 30 NHSC recipients in the state. Most of these are Kansas graduates who applied for loan repayment in a variety of fields, medicine, advanced practice nursing, physician assistant etc. We strongly encourage passage of this bill.

Please don't hesitate to call me if we can provide other information and once again thank you for your interest in issues of access to care.  
Joyce Volmut, Executive Director Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, 233-8483.

House Higher Education  
2-19-01  
Attachment 4

STATE OF KANSAS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COFFEYVILLE ADDRESS  
601 EAST 12TH, P.O. BOX 538  
COFFEYVILLE, KS 67337  
(316) 251-1900 (OFFICE)  
(316) 251-1864 (HOME)

TOPEKA ADDRESS  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 327-S  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1504  
(785) 296-7630  
REPRESENTATIVE, ELEVENTH DISTRICT



**JIM GARNER**  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Testimony in Support of  
**HB 2437**  
House Higher Education Committee  
19 February 2001

Chairperson Benlon and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2437. This bill would create the Kansas Education Students Forgivable Loan Program. The idea is based on a law in Georgia— The Promise Teacher Scholarship Program. In proposing this bill, the sponsors wish to raise awareness of the real problem of a looming teacher shortage; to recognize that smart enthusiastic individuals must be attracted to teaching to have quality classrooms in our public schools; and to offer a realistic, common sense solution to the problem.

**THE NEED:**

The first signs of a critical teacher shortage are already appearing. As of August 1, 2000, there were 530 teacher vacancies in Kansas compared to 196 at the beginning of the previous school year. In addition, national studies indicate that within the next ten years, nearly half of all teachers will be eligible for retirement.

**THE PLAN:**

House Bill 2437 would provide loans for education students to pay tuition, fees and other college related costs. The loans would be \$1500 for each semester of a students junior and senior years of study.

The student would be required to teach in a Kansas public school for one school year for each semester that the student receives loan assistance. For each year of teaching, one semester of loan debt would be forgiven. If the student does not teach in a Kansas school, the loan would have to be repaid. The state Board of Regents is given authority to set policies to implement this program.

House Higher Education  
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Attachment 5



**AN ALTERNATIVE:**

As an alternative, the committee may also look at enhancing the current “hard-to-fill” area scholarship program found at KSA 74-32,100 et seq. Unfortunately this program is not widely advertised or known by college students and is limited to serving only 50 students per year. This is far too small to meet the growing teacher shortage. I also understand that the Legislative Educational Planning Council has recommended improvements to teacher scholarship initiatives.

**FUNDING:**

There are state funds available to support a meaningful teacher forgivable loan program. I offered this bill as an amendment to the lottery bill. We can use lottery funds without impacting current EDIF programs. I propose capturing the \$1.2 million increase in the lottery’s advertising budget over the past two years and dedicate those funds to this program to recruit new teachers. In FY 2000, the lottery actually spent \$2.03 million in advertising. This is five times as much as Massachusetts spends in lottery advertising. For FY 2002, the lottery has requested and the Governor has recommended spending \$3.2 million for advertising. This is not the best way to spend an additional \$1.2 million. I suggest it would reap greater benefits to our state recruiting and developing new teachers. The \$1.2 million would fund nearly 400 scholarship/loans each year under HB 2437.

**CONCLUSION:**

It is time to treat teachers as the professionals they are. We have forgivable loan programs for physicians. Teachers are the most essential element of a quality education. We must attract smart, enthusiastic individuals to lead our classrooms. HB 2437 is a significant step to achieving this goal.

This proposal reflects the values we share as Kansans. It promotes opportunity for young people to pursue a profession. It promotes teaching as a critical component of our communities. And it encourages responsibility by expecting something in return for the opportunity provided.

I urge your support of HB 2437 or some type of enhanced forgivable loan program to recruit and attract a new generation of teachers to Kansas classrooms.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to appear and address this critical issue.



Craig Grant Testimony  
House Higher Education Committee  
Monday, February 19, 2001

Thank you, Madame Chair. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to visit with the committee in support of HB 2437.

Kansas NEA has testified a number of times about teacher scholarships and forgivable loans to students who will become teachers. It is quite clear that we are in a period of time when we have a critical shortage of teachers. As many of you have heard, we started the year in Kansas with 530 teaching positions unfilled. This compares to <sup>191</sup>~~119~~ last school year. We had about 100 positions still vacant as of the start of the second semester. This is a crisis. We have to encourage more of our bright young college students to enter the teaching profession.

HB 2437 should be part of an overall strategy to attract and retain quality teachers in our schools in Kansas. Salaries, mentoring, inservice education, and scholarships are parts to the solution. We would hope that we address all parts of this solution.

We would suggest a change in HB 2437 that does not change the intent of the bill. We do have critical shortages in certain disciplines and geographic areas of the state. KNEA would suggest that, if an eligible student took advantage of the loan program and chose to teach in an area designated as a "high-need" area, that the loan be forgiven twice as quickly as a regular basis loan. This would be similar to the National Defense Student Loan Program that gave double forgiveness when a person taught in certain priority schools. We would suggest that the State Department of Education determine the shortage areas that would qualify under this provision.

Kansas NEA supports HB 2437 and other measures designed to attract and retain quality educators in our Kansas schools.

House Higher Education  
2-19-01  
Attachment 6

## KANSAS STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Statement by  
Kim Wilcox, Executive Director  
Kansas Board of Regents  
February 16, 2001

During the 2001 Session of the Legislature, a number of bills have been introduced to create new loan or scholarship programs targeted at providing solutions to perceived workforce problems or to help families pay for higher education. The Board of Regents would like to emphasize the following points, as various legislative committees consider these bills:

- One of the Board's responsibilities under SB 345 is to initiate ways to improve higher education accessibility and affordability. As part of its statewide coordination plan, the Board has adopted as one its goals to minimize barriers to access to higher education. The Board's plan is to examine the effectiveness of the current student financial aid program and recommend improvements.
- The Board has maintained a longstanding commitment to increasing funding for student financial aid programs. Beginning with FY 2002, the Board has proposed a three-year program to increase the Kansas Comprehensive Grant Program by \$1.8 million each year. The Governor has supported this program in the past and has recommended an increase of \$323,000 for FY 2002.
- Two fundamental problems with the state's financial aid programs are (1) there is not enough funding and (2) there are too many individual programs. In FY 2001, the state will spend \$15.3 million on 11 programs. Nationwide, Kansas compares poorly in state spending on need-based financial aid. It is questionable as to whether the current deployment of state student aid resources is optimally effective. The Board's proposed study should lead to conclusions and recommendations on this critical issue.
- The Board does not have sufficient staff and resources to administer additional student aid programs of significant size or number. The Board of Regents staff currently administers 15 student financial assistance programs, disbursing about \$15 million to more than 10,000 students, from about 27,000 eligible applicants. Included in these programs are five programs which contain provisions for payback through service or repayment in cash with interest. These 15 programs currently require 100 percent of the work time of the four employees assigned to student financial aid administration. No other staff are available for assignment to student financial aid administration.



*Session of 2001*  
**HOUSE BILL No. 2349**  
By Committee on Higher Education  
2-6

AN ACT requiring the legislative educational planning committee to conduct a study of the state system for delivery of vocational and technical education, establishing the Vocational and Technical Workforce Advisory Council.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

Section 1. (a) The legislative educational planning committee shall conduct during the interim between the 2001 and 2002 sessions of the legislature a comprehensive study of the state system for delivery of vocational and technical education to students. There is hereby established the Vocational and Technical Workforce Advisory Council to advise the Governor, Legislature, Board of Education and Board of Regents on the current and future vocational and technical education needs of the Kansas workforce. The Council shall be comprised of four legislators, two Senators and two Representatives, one appointed by the President of the Senate, one appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the House Minority Leader respectively; one representative of the Governor's office appointed by the Governor; four members of business and industry appointed by the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry; two representatives of Community Colleges appointed by the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees; two representatives of area vocational schools, area vocational-technical schools and technical colleges appointed by the Kansas Association of Technical Schools and Colleges; and one member of organized labor appointed by the Governor. In conducting the study, the legislative educational planning committee The Council shall conduct during the interim between the 2001 and 2002 sessions of the legislature a comprehensive study of the state system for delivery of vocational

and technical education and its effectiveness for the Kansas workforce. In the performance of its duties the Council shall address consider the following issues as they effect the workforce needs of Kansas:

(1) Governance and mission of community colleges, area vocational schools, area vocational-technical schools and technical colleges, including the structure of present governing boards and whether such schools and colleges should be free-standing institutions under differently-structured governing boards;

(2) coordination and cooperation among and between such schools and colleges and among and between such schools and colleges with other institutions of postsecondary education in the state, including articulation and transfer policies and procedures;

(3) effectiveness of such schools and colleges, including responsiveness to the needs and priorities of students and the state's work force;

(4) the array of academic, vocational and technical programs offered by such schools and colleges, including any unnecessary duplication in such programs;

(5) the costs of providing programs by such schools and colleges to students and to the state, including the reasonableness of such costs, efficient use of resources, and levels of spending for instruction, administration, and plant maintenance and operation;

(6) student performance, including graduation rates, dropout rates and career success;

(7) class size, enrollment projections and instructor experience and training;

(8) structure of the funding system for such schools and colleges, including sources, amounts, allocation and distribution and whether the structure of the funding system should be altered by such measures as increased state financial assistance and delegating authority to governing boards to levy taxes and incur bonded debt;

(9) the feasibility of consolidation and merger among and between such schools and colleges and among and between such schools and colleges with other institutions of postsecondary education in the state.

(b) Upon completion of its study, the ~~legislative educational planning~~

~~committee~~council shall prepare a report containing its findings, together with any legislation or recommendations for legislation deemed necessary to ensure appropriateness of mission and governance, operational and structural soundness, and adequate and equitable funding of the state system for delivery of vocational and technical education to benefit the Kansas workforce. The report shall be submitted to the legislature upon commencement of the 2002 session.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.



SESSION 2001  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2349  
By Committee on Higher Education

As a member of the Governor's Task Force on Workforce Development: Preparing Kansans for Jobs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, I support House Bill No. 2349. The Workforce Development Task Force's first recommendation was an advisory or oversight committee should be recognized to advise the Governor, Legislature, Board of Education and Board of Regents on the current and future employment needs of the public and private sector. House Bill No. 2349 is definitely in keeping with the spirit of this recommendation.

A Technical and Vocational Workforce Advisory Council would help determine workforce skills that are essential for today's students and help bring about positive change in the development and delivery of vocational-technical education. This Advisory Council would also be critical in the examination of the effectiveness of the Kansas' educational system in relation to the needs of the workforce.

I want to thank the Committee on Higher Education in advance for their support of a recommendation of the Governor's Task Force on Workforce Development. The one suggestion that I would make is to insure that members of the minority party are included in the make-up of the Workforce Advisory Council.

Best wishes and I look forward to positive progress on House Bill 2349.



Dr. Patrick J. McAtee  
President, Cowley College  
Member, Governor's Task Force on Workforce Development

House Higher Education  
2-19-01  
Attachment 9

# LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



*The Unified Voice of Business*

835 SW Topeka Blvd. • Topeka, KS 66612-1671 • 785-357-6321 • Fax: 785-357-4732 • E-mail: [kcci@kansaschamber.org](mailto:kcci@kansaschamber.org) • [www.kansaschamber.org](http://www.kansaschamber.org)

HB 2349

February 19, 2001

## KANSAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Testimony Before the

House Higher Education Committee

by

Jim Edwards  
Senior Vice President

Madam Chair and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today and express KCCI's support for HB 2349, a bill which would study the state system for the delivery of vocational and technical education in Kansas.

The Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) is a statewide organization dedicated to the promotion of economic growth and job creation within Kansas, and to the protection and support of the private competitive enterprise system.

KCCI is comprised of more than 2,000 businesses which includes 200 local and regional chambers of commerce and trade organizations which represent over 161,000 business men and women. The organization represents both large and small employers in Kansas, with 48% of KCCI's members having less than 25 employees, and 78% having less than 100 employees. KCCI receives no government funding.

The KCCI Board of Directors establishes policies through the work of hundreds of the organization's members who make up its various committees. These policies are the guiding principles of the organization and translate into views such as those expressed here.

The Kansas Legislature took a bold step in 1999 when it not only addressed the coordination of higher education in Kansas but also started the process. This was a step that needed to be taken and should benefit, first and foremost, the state's efforts in the lifelong training of Kansas' citizens. When I stood in front of the Education Committees of both the House and Senate that year, I stated

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*"This proposal and the changes it makes must be viewed as the ones needed for this time and place. Will other changes need to be made down the road? Well, unless the system of higher education in the state is unlike every other facet of life, there will be other changes that need to be made down the road."* The bill which you have in front of you today can only enhance that action by focusing on what can be the most needed, yet least thought of form of post secondary training in today's market.

We are supportive of the concepts embodied in HB 2349 and the balloon amendment attached to this testimony and urge your support. I would be happy to field questions that you might have.

*Session of 2001*  
**HOUSE BILL No. 2349**  
By Committee on Higher Education  
2-6

AN ACT requiring the legislative educational planning committee to conduct a study of the state system for delivery of vocational and technical education establishing the Vocational and Technical Workforce Advisory Council.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

Section 1. (a) The legislative educational planning committee shall conduct during the interim between the 2001 and 2002 sessions of the legislature a comprehensive study of the state system for delivery of vocational and technical education to students. There is hereby established the Vocational and Technical Workforce Advisory Council to advise the Governor, Legislature, Board of Education and Board of Regents on the current and future vocational and technical education needs of the Kansas workforce. The Council shall be comprised of four legislators, two Senators and two Representatives, one appointed by the President of the Senate, one appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the House Minority Leader respectively; one representative of the Governor's office appointed by the Governor; four members of business and industry appointed by the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry; two representatives of Community Colleges appointed by the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees; two representatives of area vocational schools, area vocational-technical schools and technical colleges appointed by the Kansas Association of Technical Schools and Colleges; and one member of organized labor appointed by the Governor. In conducting the study, the legislative educational planning committee. The Council shall conduct during the interim between the 2001 and 2002 sessions of the legislature a comprehensive study of the state system for delivery of vocational



and technical education and its effectiveness for the Kansas workforce. In the performance of its duties the Council shall address consider the following issues as they effect the workforce needs of Kansas:

- (1) Governance and mission of community colleges, area vocational schools, area vocational-technical schools and technical colleges, including the structure of present governing boards and whether such schools and colleges should be free-standing institutions under differently-structured governing boards;
  - (2) coordination and cooperation among and between such schools and colleges and among and between such schools and colleges with other institutions of postsecondary education in the state, including articulation and transfer policies and procedures;
  - (3) effectiveness of such schools and colleges, including responsiveness to the needs and priorities of students and the state's work force;
  - (4) the array of academic, vocational and technical programs offered by such schools and colleges, including any unnecessary duplication in such programs;
  - (5) the costs of providing programs by such schools and colleges to students and to the state, including the reasonableness of such costs, efficient use of resources, and levels of spending for instruction, administration, and plant maintenance and operation;
  - (6) student performance, including graduation rates, dropout rates and career success;
  - (7) class size, enrollment projections and instructor experience and training;
  - (8) structure of the funding system for such schools and colleges, including sources, amounts, allocation and distribution and whether the structure of the funding system should be altered by such measures as increased state financial assistance and delegating authority to governing boards to levy taxes and incur bonded debt;
  - (9) the feasibility of consolidation and merger among and between such schools and colleges and among and between such schools and colleges with other institutions of postsecondary education in the state.
- (b) Upon completion of its study, the legislative educational planning

committeecouncil shall prepare a report containing its findings, together with any legislation or recommendations for legislation deemed necessary to ensure appropriateness of mission and governance, operational and structural soundness, and adequate and equitable funding of the state system for delivery of vocational and technical education to benefit the Kansas workforce. The report shall be submitted to the legislature upon commencement of the 2002 session.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

Proposed Amendments to House Bill No. 2189

On page 1, in line 20, after "firefighter", by inserting "or an emergency medical services attendant"; following line 33, by inserting a new paragraph as follows:

"(5) "Emergency medical services attendant" means a first responder, emergency medical technician, emergency medical technician-intermediate, emergency medical technician-defibrillator or a mobile intensive care technician certified by the emergency medical services board pursuant to the statutory provisions contained in article 61 of chapter 65 of Kansas Statutes Annotated.";

Also on page 1, in line 34, by striking "(5)" and inserting "(6)"; in line 38, by striking "(6)" and inserting "(7)";

On page 2, in line 1, by striking "as the result of injury sustained" and inserting "or suffered a fatal injury or a permanent, total disability"; in line 9, after "deceased", by inserting "or permanently and totally disabled"