

# PETEFISH

IMMEL, HIRD, JOHNSON,  
LEIBOLD & SLOAN, LLP  
*Attorneys at Law*  
— Est. 1915 —

Richard W. Hird\*\*  
Thomas H. Johnson\*\*  
Terence E. Leibold\*\*  
Edward S. Sloan\*  
Daniel D. Covington\*  
Matthew J. Donnelly\*

\*Admitted in Kansas  
\*\*Admitted in Kansas and Missouri

842 Louisiana Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
(785) 843-0450 Tel  
(785) 843-0407 Fax  
www.petefishlaw.com  
rhird@petefishlaw.com

Olin K. Petefish (1912-2001)  
Jeffrey O. Heeb (retired)  
John J. Immel (retired)

March 6, 2024

Testimony in Support of SB 529  
Ways and Means Committee

Re: The Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center SB 529

Dear Chairman Billinger and members of the Committee,

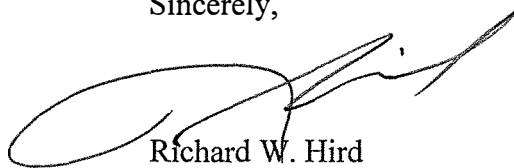
I am writing to express my support for SB 529, which will provide much needed financial stability for Peaslee Tech, and to request your support.

I have had the pleasure of serving as counsel to the Board of Directors since Peaslee Tech was founded and opened in 2015. Peaslee Tech was approved as a post-secondary institution by the Kansas Board of Regents in November of 2017 and since then, Peaslee Tech has grown to offer 26 career training preparation programs and more than 700 online programs and courses. The programs and courses offered by Peaslee Tech support several important sectors, including Transportation, Building Trades, Skilled Trades, and Healthcare. Additionally, Peaslee Tech offers apprenticeships and open enrollment in Industrial Maintenance, Automotive Technology, Auto Body Repair, Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC, and Facilities Maintenance, Clinical Dental Assistant, Veterinary Assistant, and Drafting (AutoCAD).

SB 529 would enable the Douglas County Commission to offer a ballot proposition that, if approved by the voters, would levy a 0.50 mill property tax to support Peaslee Tech. The education and training offered by Peaslee Tech provides a clear return on investment for the citizens of Douglas County – and beyond. This is a vital chapter in the evolution of Peaslee Tech into a powerful resource for economic development.

Your support of SB 529 will help write the next chapter for Peaslee Tech. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Hird  
Petefish, Immel, Hird, Johnson,  
Leibold & Sloan, LLP