



UNIVERSITY
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION
OF KANSAS

Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee
January 21, 2025
SB 35

Universities Contractors Association of Kansas
Opposition Testimony – Written & Oral

Chairwoman Tyson and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the University Contractors Association of Kansas to offer opposition testimony to Senate Bill 35, which would eliminate the state property tax levy for the Kansas educational building fund (EBF).

In statute, the EBF is used for the construction, reconstruction, equipment, and repair of mission-critical buildings and grounds across the six State Universities and KU Medical Center. Remaining stable for many decades, the fund has been at least 1.0 mill since 1955.

Since its authorization through a constitutional amendment in 1918, the EBF has required this stability as it provides a minimum baseline for the most mission-critical work year to year for our state's largest infrastructure footprint.

Moving to an annual appropriation could destabilize the ongoing repair of educational facilities and adds a significant, ever-growing annual expense to the state general fund.

Make no mistake, if we don't pay for this now, we will pay for it later at a higher cost.

There are many examples of the government not meeting commitments for maintenance through annual discretionary appropriations. Look no further than the Docking building, to name an example.

Our members and organization are opposed to SB 35. Thank you for your time.

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