

State of Kansas



Speaker Mike O'Neal
Kansas House of Representatives

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 2785
House Appropriations Committee
March 16, 2012

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, H.B. 2785 makes some technical and some minor policy changes to the current Kansas Bioscience Authority statutes.

The first change, on page 1, removes language originally applicable to the 1st board regarding which appointing authority is to select the agricultural expert. In the initial board appointments it was the Speaker's appointment. This would allow the appointee to come from any of the appointing authorities.

The second change, on page 2, would limit Board member terms to 2 consecutive 4-year terms instead of the current 3-term limit.

The third change, on page 4, clarifies the conflict of interest provisions to dovetail with current KSA 74-99b04(j) (page 3). Direct interests would require divestiture or resignation, while indirect interests would require disclosure and recusal.

The third change, on pages 3-4, would remove the option of affiliation with KPERS. Our understanding is that they have not exercised the option up to this point and given the overall sense of not adding new classes of folks to KPERS currently, this option is removed in the bill.