



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

House Education Committee Testimony by Dr. Blake Flanders Senate Bill 22 March 11, 2013

In 2007, the Kansas Legislature created the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA). There are 12 members on the TEA – three appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Speaker of the House, one appointed by the President of the Senate, four appointed by the Board of Regents, and the Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Labor, and Commissioner of Education who serve as ex-officio members. Members must represent business and industry, the general public, the Board of Regents, and community and technical colleges.

K.S.A. 72-4482 charges the authority with the following:

- (a) The postsecondary technical education authority shall:
 - (1) Have delegated authority from the board of regents to coordinate state-wide planning for postsecondary technical education, new postsecondary technical education programs and contract training. Such planning shall be conducted in coordination with federal agencies, the state board of education and other state agencies and Kansas business and industry;
 - (2) recommend for adoption by the state board of regents rules and regulations for the supervision of postsecondary technical education;
 - (3) review existing and proposed postsecondary technical educational programs and program locations and make recommendations to the state board of regents for approval or disapproval of such programs for state funding purposes;
 - (4) review requests of state funding for postsecondary technical education and make recommendations to the state board of regents for amounts of state funding and the distribution thereof;
 - (5) develop benchmarks and accountability indicators of programs to be utilized in the awarding of state funding and make recommendations relating thereto to the state board of regents;
 - (6) develop and advocate annually a policy agenda for postsecondary technical education;
 - (7) conduct continuous studies of ways to maximize the utilization of resources available for postsecondary technical education and make recommendations for improvement in the use of such resources to the state board of regents;
 - (8) conduct studies to develop strategies and programs for meeting needs of business and industry and make recommendations relating thereto to the state board of regents;

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- (9) make reports on the performance of its functions and duties together with any proposals and recommendations it may formulate with respect thereto to the state board of regents and the legislature;
- (10) coordinate the development of a seamless system for the delivery of technical education between the secondary-school level and the postsecondary-school level; and
- (11) (A) develop and recommend to the state board of regents a credit hour funding distribution formula for postsecondary technical training programs that (i) is tiered to recognize and support cost differentials in providing high-demand, high-tech training, (ii) takes into consideration target industries critical to the Kansas economy, (iii) is responsive to program growth and (iv) includes other factors and considerations as deemed necessary or advisable; and (B) establish and recommend to the state board of regents the rates to be used in such funding distribution formula.

Under current law, the TEA will sunset in June 30, 2014. The Board of Regents believes the TEA has done an outstanding job in developing recommendations on program alignment, program approval, and development of a new funding formula. However, the Board knows there is still more work to be done to finalize program alignment and develop indicators of program quality that will fulfill the original vision as outlined in the statute. The Board of Regents, therefore, requests that the TEA be extended until June 30, 2017.