

CROSSLAND

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.

833 S. East Avenue • P.O. Box 45

Columbus, KS 66725

tel 620.429.1414

fax 620.429.1412

February 1, 2013

Senate Education Committee
SB 22 - Extension of the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority
February 6, 2013

Chairman Abrams and members of the Senate Education Committee:

My name is Ivan Crossland and I am the CEO of Crossland Construction. I also serve on the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors. Crossland Construction served as one of the host businesses for the recent Industry Skills Tour in support of the Governor's Skills Summit. I want to express my support of SB 22.

The work of the Technical Education Authority is needed to make sure business needs are being met. The Authority has brought a business voice to education and is focused on improving the technical education system to support businesses and individuals.

Program alignment delivers standardized outcomes so businesses can be assured of the required foundational skills in new graduates. My company is strongly in favor of industry credentials and we want to see all colleges delivering the credentials identified as valuable by businesses. When people ask me how to improve the quality of the workforce I advise them to do this one thing! It is what matters. Deliver a workforce with industry credentials!

Outcome Metrics, another initiative of the Authority, also focuses on industry credentials as one of the key measures of quality for technical programs. When the state does these two things – teach to industry credentials and measure how many credentials are awarded – businesses can be assured they will have a quality pipeline of skilled workers. The Authority is the body to make this happen.

I respectfully ask that you continue the industry credentials efforts started by the Authority and pass SB 22. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ivan Crossland, CEO
Crossland Construction Company, Inc.