



Sarah L. Shipman, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

House Appropriations Committee

January 20, 2016

Department of Administration

Testimony in support of SB 250

John Milburn, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 250, that would make changes to the reporting process for state building construction projects.

As you are aware, the Office of Repealer was established in 2011 by executive order with the purpose of identifying those laws, rules and regulations that were cumbersome, onerous or burdensome. The proposal that is before you for your consideration fits that definition.

The proposed legislation would remove the requirement for the Secretary of the Department of Administration to make a monthly report to the Joint Committee on State Building Construction regarding the progress on existing projects. Because of changes in recent years regarding the oversight of these projects, we feel that the report that is required in statute is of little value to the committee.

When the Department of Administration oversaw all construction on state buildings, these progress reports were comprehensive. Currently, the reports contain only those projects bid by the Department and excludes projects completed with non-state funds, primarily through the Kansas Board of Regents. The Department of Administration submits a monthly report on its construction projects, but does not receive updated information from other construction projects and thus isn't able to provide the comprehensive reports.

The change occurred in the past six years when the Regents asked the Department to provide fewer services for their projects and reduce our fees. The Department continues to provide monthly reports on change orders for these projects, which is available in our data base.

By removing this reporting requirement we believe the Department will improve its efficiencies by no longer preparing a document that holds little or no information value for legislators.

I would note that this bill was passed by the Senate in 2015 by a vote of 40-0.

Thank you for this opportunity and I would be pleased to answer any questions.