



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

HOUSE EDUCATION BUDGET COMMITTEE March 4, 2015

HB 2394

Blake Flanders, Ph.D. Vice President for Workforce Development

Chair Grosserode and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide neutral testimony concerning HB 2394.

HB 2394 as introduced would require the Board of Regents to provide school districts a \$250 reward plus the cost of each successful completion of an industry-recognized credential assessment for each such pupil graduating from a high school in the school district. We agree with the intent of this language, but would suggest increasing the reward to \$300 and modifying the bill language to account for a reimbursement of the cost of each industry-recognized credential assessment to be included in that amount. Making this modification would increase administrative efficiency by insulating the award amount from small changes in the cost of assessments, yet provide support for the cost of most industry-recognized credential assessments.

Last year, 1,419 credentials were issued as a part of SB 155. 1,418 of these credentials ranged in cost from no cost to \$60. The lone computer network credential issued had a cost of \$270.

The Committee may also wish to consider aligning the language related to the support of each industry-recognized credential assessment by capping the amount paid by the board of education of each school district at \$250 or \$300, reflecting the change in total award amount. Current language requires “the board of education of each school district shall pay 1/2 of the costs of the industry-recognized credential assessment specified in such application in the amount not to exceed \$1,000.”

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on HB 2394. I would be happy to answer any questions.