



Sarah L. Shipman, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

Senate Commerce Committee

March 15, 2016

Department of Administration

Testimony in support of SB 502

John Milburn, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 502, which establishes an annual idea festival for State employees for efficiencies and savings in State government. This initiative was recommended by Alvarez and Marsal as part of their efficiency report to the Legislature earlier this year.

Although K.S.A. 75-37,105 establishes an employee suggestion program for the State of Kansas, SB 502 would establish a separate annual ideas festival where State employees would have the opportunity to provide ideas on ways to make State government more efficient and achieve savings for the SGF. The festival would result in an annual award for excellence as well as a runner-up award, and the bill states that the value of these awards could not exceed \$25,000, but also authorizes additional awards at the discretion of the Governor, not to exceed a total of \$40,000 annually. The Department of Administration would establish the policies and procedures for this annual festival and would also provide an annual report on the estimated savings achieved as a result of the festival from the prior year.

The Department of Administration supports this initiative proposed by Alvarez and Marsal and stands ready to implement the program in FY2017 should it be passed by the Legislature.

Thank you for this opportunity and I would be happy to address any questions.