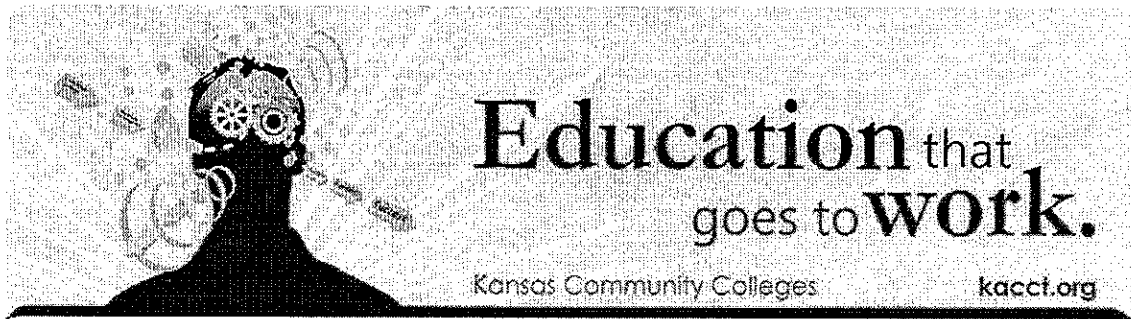




February 2, 2015

Chairman Abrams, Minority Member Hensley, Members of the Committee.

My name is Allie Devine. I am appearing on behalf of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 93. The bill amends the GED accelerator program passed last year and addresses two points:

First, it would allow Johnson County Community College to participate in this outcomes based pilot. We believe it is important that Johnson County Community College be eligible to participate in this important pilot. Johnson County Community College was not included last year because it was included in a different proposal. Unfortunately that proposal did not pass and we want to correct the oversight of last year. This would be accomplished on page 3, lines 40 and 41, by deleting ", except such term shall not include Johnson County Community College."

Second, the bill seeks to clarify that colleges do not have to teach GED and technical education concurrently for these students to participate in the pilot. Colleges need the flexibility to determine how they best can meet the terms of the program, understanding the goal is providing more GED credentials for Kansans and more technical credentials for our GED students.

The bill seeks to clarify this by the amendment on page 1, lines 10 – 11: (A) after the word "credential" delete "while enrolled in an eligible career education program".

In discussions with the Kansas Board of Regents staff, we realized we may not have captured the intent correctly. We suggest additional changes to the bill as follows:

1. To clarify that the student does not have to be dually participating in GED and tech ed at the same time, we suggest amending on page 1 line 13 after "institution" add "dual enrollment is not required." If the student receives the GED, under (b) (1) the college receives \$500 and if the student obtains a technical education credential under (b) (2) the college receives \$1,000.
2. We suggest striking lines 17-20.
3. We suggest that "and" be inserted on page 1, line 31 after the word "\$500;".
4. We suggest striking "and" on page 1 line 33.

We understand KBOR would also like to limit the program to Kansas residents. We agree and ask that language be added in an appropriate place.

We will work with KBOR to perfect the language as quickly as possible. We ask you to pass this bill.

Thank you.