

Minority Report

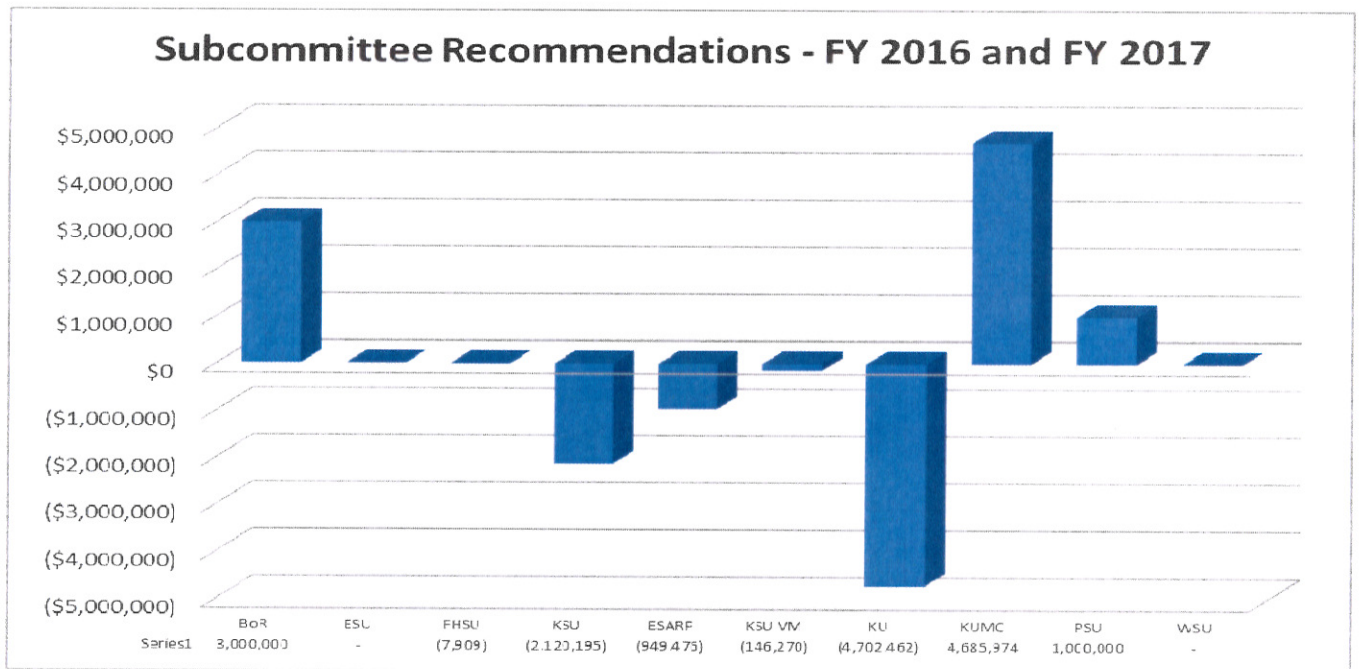
FY 2015, FY 2016 and FY 2017 Postsecondary Education Systemwide

I object to the Higher Education Budget Subcommittee Report for the following reasons:

- 1) The additional \$2.0 million for the Kansas Comprehensive Grant provides a total of \$17.8 million to the fund. However increasing the percentage from approximately 50.0 percent to 75.0 to the independent and private colleges will provide \$13.3 million to those institutions while providing only \$4.4 million to the state universities. This is a decrease of approximately \$3.0 million from the \$7.4 million they would have received with the 50.0 percent share;
- 2) The Kansas State University ESARP program has no tuition funding to replace the State General Fund reduction and there could be repercussions to the agricultural and extension offices throughout the State;
- 3) The deletion of \$117,865 from the Geological Survey within the University of Kansas is untimely given the current research on fracking and increased earthquakes within the state; and
- 4) It capriciously and unfairly targets the University of Kansas by deleting \$4.7 million in each FY 2016 and FY 2017, mostly from their operating fund. That is a total of \$9.4 million over the two years;

The Subcommittee's recommendations, if enacted, send a clear message to others that the Legislature does not support its flagship university. This lack of support is likely to result in premier faculty taking their research dollars elsewhere and creating significant roadblocks to recruitment of the top talent.

The graph below shows the results of the subcommittee's recommendation.



Senator Laura Kelly