

KANSAS OFFICE *of*
REVISOR *of* STATUTES

LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS
Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.

300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
From: Scott Abbott, Assistant Revisor
Date: March 3, 2016
Re: Senate Bill 451

Senate Bill 451 authorizes the merger of the Wichita area technical college into Wichita state university. The bill designates the infrastructure of the Wichita area technical college as Wichita state university school of technology and applied science. The new school of technology and applied science would remain eligible for funding sources available for technical colleges. Any personnel of the Wichita area technical college who, in the opinion of the president of Wichita state university, are necessary to the operation of the school would become personnel of Wichita state university.

The newly-designated Wichita state university school of technology and applied science would be governed and operated as a school within Wichita state university. The governing board of the technical college would become the industry advisory board to the president of Wichita state university, and the members of the industry advisory board would be appointed by the president of Wichita state university. All powers of the governing board would be transferred to Wichita state university.

The school of technology and applied science would provide education, training, applied research and engaged service as well as credential and degree programs ranging from GED credentials to doctoral degrees.

For accreditation purposes, merger of the Wichita area technical college into Wichita state university would occur after approval by the higher learning commission of the north central association of colleges and schools.

If enacted, the bill would take effect upon publication in the statute book, July 1, 2016.